ANNUAL REPORT
TOWN OF EASTON

2009

The Ames Free Library Begins a New Era

After two years of renovation and many, many more years in the planning, this year marked the reopening of the famed 129-year old H.H. Richardson Ames Free Library on November 30th. Over the past ten years the library board of directors had accumulated funds from the Fanny Holt Ames endowments specifically for the purpose of completing improvements to the building. The eventual project was accomplished with $2.5 million of private funds. Included in this major project were the building of a 24-car parking lot on land leased from the Town of Easton and the start of the restoration of the 99-year-old Queset Garden.

The building renovation added 3,400 square feet of usable space on the ground floor where a new circulation department is located. Stylish brick-walled areas and polished concrete floors provide a modern environment for more computers and book stacks for the fiction, DVD, audiobook, and large print collections. Two spacious restrooms – replacements long awaited by the public – complete the updated look and feel of the library.

Access to all parts of the building was greatly improved via an impressive glass-walled elevator, a new entrance, a sloped access ramp, and designated parking spaces for the handicapped. The beautiful main reading room, that is, the famed barrel-vault room, and the majestic fireplace room were restored with new lighting and gleaming wood floors. The William Hadwen Ames Children's Wing, built in 1931 was also lighted with chandeliers and shelving fixtures and had a complete overhaul to the floors, woodwork, and stucco walls and ceiling.

Happily, the culmination of all the effort put into the renovation, notably, by James Thomas, restoration architect, and many others, was that the Easton Historical Commission granted the Library Board the prestigious Briggs Award given for the preservation of historic property.

The library staff and board were extremely grateful to the 300 volunteers, who, on November 7th, again formed a book brigade to move books back to the main library from Frothingham Hall, where the library had operated for two years. The first book brigade moved the books to the temporary site two years earlier.

The library's contributions to the beautification of Easton's Historic District continued when the overgrown Queset Garden, adjacent to the parking lot, was uncovered. Restoration began this year also under the supervision of James Thomas, with the help of donations from Rick and Deb Smith of Forest Systems, other individuals, and a $69,400 grant from Easton's Community Preservation Act funds.

Most of the stabilization of stone walls and gates as well as planting, lighting, and path installation was completed before the end of the year. Queset Garden was originally built by the theater impresario Winthrop Ames in 1911 and was used by the community for a time for high school graduations. With the help of community funding, the Historical Commission, and our volunteers, including Kath Holland, Gloria Freitas, James Carlino, the library staff is looking forward to providing this partially restored garden for community use by spring 2010. Restoration work will continue as grants and further funding becomes available.

Public reception to the new library is overwhelmingly positive and 400-500 people per day are visiting. It is our wish that the community will continue to enjoy these facilities for another 129 years or more!

The Ames Free Library Board of Directors and Staff

TOWN OF EASTON

www.easton.ma.us

Incorporated	1725
Area of Town	29.04 Square Miles
Population	22,299 (2000 Fed Census) 23,752 (2009 Town Census)
Form of Government	Open Town Meeting
Total Assessed Real and Personal Property Valuation as of January 1, 2009	$3,058,665,160.
Town Meeting	Third Monday in May
Town Election	Fourth Tuesday in April

REPRESENTATIVES FOR EASTON

CONGRESSMEN

John F Kerry, US Senator
Scott P Brown, US Senator
Stephen F Lynch, Representative in Congress, 9th Congressional District

STATE SENATORS

Thomas P Kennedy, (D-Brockton)- 2nd Plymouth & Bristol (Pcts 1 &2)
Brian A Joyce (D-Milton)- Norfolk, Bristol & Plymouth (Pcts. 3,4,5,6)

REPRSENTATIVES IN GENERAL COURT

Geraldine Creedon (D-Brockton) - 11th Plymouth District (Pcts 1, 2, 4, 5)
David L Flynn (D-Bridgewater) – 8th Plymouth District (Pct 6)
Christine E. Canavan (D-Brockton) – 10th Plymouth District (Pct 3)

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL

Kelly A Timilty (D-Boston)- 2nd District (Pct 3,4,5,6)
Christopher A Iannella, Jr. (D-Boston)- 4th District (Pcts 1,2)

Town of Easton, Massachusetts

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

	TERM EXPIRES
MODERATOR	
Walter Galas	2012
SELECTMEN	
Charles P. King	2010
Ellen Barlow	2010
John S. Haederle	2012
Colleen A. Corona	2012
Irwin M. Cohen	2011
ASSESSORS	
Wallace M. Fulcher	2010
Shaun Fitzgerald	2012
Gerald J. Noonan	2011
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	
Jane Martin	2010
Dawn Marie Boynton	2010
Colleen Less	2012
William P. Braun	2010
Caroline S. O'Neill	2011
BOARD OF HEALTH	
Robert J. Kane	2010
Jennfer Nichols	2010
Gilbert A. Heino	2008
HOUSING AUTHORITY	
Dennis Sheedy	2012
Sandra L. Conant	2011
June H. Brousseau	2010
Michael J. Malloy	2008
Vacancy (St Mmbr)	
FINANCE COMMITTEE	
Patrick A. Goodman	2010
Donna A. Lopolito	2010
Stephen J. Delano	2010
Sean T Noonan	2012
Michael Ferrara	2012
Carol Nestler	2010
Stephen A. Drown	2011
Robert L. Hicks	2011
Kimberly Dubois	2011
REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE	
Ralph Armstead	2010

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Town Administrator	David A. Colton
Animal Control Officer	John D. Melin
Animal Control Officer Asst.	Elizabeth J. DeRosa
Animal Inspector, Milk Inspector	John D. Melin
Assessor, Assistant	Robert Alford
Public Health Agent	Mark Taylor
Building Inspector, Zoning Enforcement, ADA Coordinator	D. Mark Trivett
Council on Aging Director	Dolores M. Kent
Planning Director	Alice Savage
DPW Director	Wayne P. Southworth
Fire Chief	Thomas F. Stone
Library Executive Director	Madeline Holt
Moderator, Deputy	
Moderator, Deputy	
Moderator, Deputy	
Plumbing & Gas Inspector	Robert Govey
Plumbing & Gas Inspector, Asst.	
Police Chief	Allen R. Krajcik
Police Chief, Deputy	
Recreation Director	Jennifer Hruniak
School Superintendent	Michael Green, Ed. D.
School Superintendent, Asst.	
School, Director of Curriculum, Interim	Allen Duarte
Town Accountant	Wendy V. Nightingale
Town Clerk	Jeremy P Gillis
Town Clerk, Assistant	Marie A. Graca
Town Counsel	Brackett & Lucas
Treasurer and Collector	Teresa DeSilva
Treasurer and Collector, Asst.	Linda Howard
Veterans Agent	Stephen F. Nolan, III
Water Division Superintendent	John J. Marsh
Wiring Inspector	Kevin Greiner
Wiring Inspector, Asst.	John F. Amorim

Easton Appointed Boards and Committees

BOARD OF APPEALS

	TERM EXP.
Thomas A. Pursley	2013
Christopher J. Pike	2012
Stephen Pinzari	2011
John Tupper	2010
Paul Prew, Alternate	2010
Walter Mirrione	2014
Scott Erlich, Alternate	2011

AUDIT COMMITTEE

	TERM EXP.
Michael Sullivan	2011
Brenda DeCosta	2010
Charles King	2008
Jane Martin	2009
Michael Ferrara	

CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE

	TERM EXP.
Howard Miller	2011
Stephen Borsher	2011
Paul DiNicola	2010
Leonard Berkowitz	2010
Stuart Schoenfeld	2012

CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

	TERM EXP.
Janice Fowler	2011
John Fresh, Jr.	2010
Wayne P. Southworth	2012

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

	TERM EXP.
Mark S. Carpentier	2010
Sharyn Katz	2010
Vacancy	2009
Frederic MacLennan	2012
Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant	
Gregory Strange, Planning & Zoning Board	
Jeremy David, Finance Committee	

CEMETERY COMMISSION

	TERM EXP.
Kit Minsky	2011
Melanie Deware	2010
John D. Melin	2012

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE

	TERM EXP.
Colleen Less	2011
Avery Lee Williams	2011
Len Cidado, Recreation Commission	2011
Edmund C. Hands, Historical Commission	2011
Patricia F. Hunt	2010
John E. Grant, Conservation Commission	2010
Dennis Sheedy, Housing Authority	2010
James Lee	2012
Greg Strange, Planning & Zoning Board	2012

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

	TERM EXP.
Paul DeCouto	2011
Jean Parrinello	2010
Pamela Booth	2010
Robert Coe	2013
Patricia Ellen Somers	2012
D. Mark Trivett, Ex-Officio	

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

	TERM EXP.
Kyla Bennett	2011
Jonathan Chace	2010
Michael Ganshirt	2010
John E. Grant	2012
Patricia A. Haederle	2012

CONSTABLES

	TERM EXP.
James A. Carey	2011
John J. Hurley	2011
Margaret C. Carey	2011
Michael G. Bombas	2011
George E. Mather	2011
Scot Douglas	2011
Robert Bishop	2011
Jerold Loomis	2010
Harold L. March	2010
John D. Melin	2010
Desmond Chow	2010
Phillip E. White, Jr.	2010
Sean Cushing	2010
Michael Marrum	2010
William E. Scharnick	2012
Brent Peterson	2012
James T. Hartford	2012

COUNCIL ON AGING

	TERM EXP.
Francis H. Spillane	2011
David Cudmore	2011
Jean Shearing	2011
Nicolina Previti	2010
Rose Friedeborn	2010
Marie Healey	2012
Ethel Pomerleau	2012
Delores M. Kent, Director	

CULTURAL COUNCIL

	TERM EXP.
	2011
Bill Bradley	2011
	2010
	2010
	2009
Mary Goulart	2012
Christine Junge	2012
Katherine Minsky	2010
Heidi Harlfinger	2012

EDUCATIONAL & MUNICIPAL TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

	TERM EXP.
Lewis N. Aries, Jr	Indefinite
Judith Canty	Indefinite
Anne M. Carney	Indefinite
Michael Deltano	Indefinite
Christine Margulies	Indefinite
Howard Miller	Indefinite

Easton Appointed Boards and Committees

TERM EXP.

FAIR & AFFORDABLE HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Calvin Harris	2011
Paula Piccinin	2011
Ghardy Daniel	2011
Rachel Hansen	2010
Ilisabeth Bornstein	2010
Donna Bonia	2012
Mary Elizabeth Fitzgerald	2012

FENCE VIEWERS

Robert L. Hicks
Charles Hammond
Vacancy

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Greg Galer	2011
Melanie-Jane Deware	2011
Timothy Hurley	2010
Paul Fitzpatrick	2010
Edmund C. Hands	2011
John Ventresco	2012
Vacancy (Meninno Resigned), Associate Member	
Larry Mowatt, Associate Member	
Catherine M. Adler, Associate Member	

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

Vacancy	2010
Rachel Hansen	2009
Ilisabeth Bornstein	2009
Mary Elizabeth Fitzgerald	2009
Vacancy	2008

HUMAN RESOURCES BOARD

Stephen Delamere	2010
Jacqueline A. Shea	2010
Brian Hoffman	2009
Sonia Bryan	2012
John Zalis	2011

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY

Richard L. Freitas	2008

INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Marie Graca	2009
David Brown	2009
Christopher Mills	2009
Ken Flanagan	2009
Joseph Richard	2009
Christine Midura	2009
Jim McAvoy	2009
Jean Amichetti	2009
Karyn Smith	2009
Teresa DeSilva	2009

TERM EXP.

LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gerard S. Marsan (Corp)	2011
James Fowler(Corp)	2011
William M. Ames (Corp)	2010
Marion Wingfield (Town)	2010
Hazel L. Varella (Town)	2010
Karen Hays (Corp)	2010
Stephen Merlin (Town)	2012
Marcia Connors (Town)	2012
Donna P. Richman (Corp)	2009
Madeline Miele Holt, Executive Director	

MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Kenneth Carlson	2011
Dennis Kenny	2011
Wallace Fulcher	2010
Ralph Vatalaro	2010
Michael Belanger	2012
Marc Brockman, School Rep	
Jane Pike Benton, School Rep	
Dawn Boynton, School Rep, Alternate	
Dr. Michael Green, School Supt Rep, Ex-Officio	
Wayne Southworth, DPW Director, Ex-Officio	

OLD COLONY ELDER SERVICES

Delores Kent, Board of Directors
Nicolina Previti, Board of Directors Alternate

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL (OCPC)

Jeanmarie Kent Joyce, Representative
Stephen Donahue, Delegate Alternate

OCPC AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Phyllis Kiessling, Delegate
Marie Healey, Alternate

OCPC TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Wayne P. Southworth, Representative

PERMANENT LANDFILL COMMITTEE

David W. Brown	2010
Vacancy	2010
Gil A. Heino	2009

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

Christine Santoro	2013
Gregory Strange	2012
Walter H. Johnson	2011
Colin W. Gillis	2010
Peter DesChenes - Alternate	2010
John Duggan	2014

Easton Appointed Boards and Committees

RECREATION COMMISSION	TERM EXP.
Tana Babbitt	2011
Robert Benton	2011
Leonard R. Cidado	2010
Michael J. McDonald	2010
Kathleen DeGrandis (RESIGNED 5/09)	2010
Elizabeth Nikiciuk	2012
Charles H. Hammond	2012
Jennifer Hruniak, Recreation Director	

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS	
Gus Arns	2011
Cheryl Niosi	2010
Patricia Locke	2012
Jeremy P Gillis, Clerk	

SCHOOL PLANNING COMMITTEE	
Marc R. Brockman	4/1/2006
Lennart K. Altieri	
Dawn Marie Boynton, School	
Judith E. Josephs	
Henry P. Narsasian	4/14/2006
Wallace Fulcher	4/14/2006
Robert L. Hicks, Finance Committee	
Michael Green, School	
Jane Martin, School	

SPECIAL ACT CHARTER COMMITTEE	
Stephen Merlin	2009
Alexander Maller	2009
Robert Carvin	2009

VETERANS' GRAVES OFFICER	
John D. Melin	2013

VETERANS AND MEMORIAL DAY PARADE COMMITTEE	
Alvin Smart, Commander VFW	
Louis G. Silva	
John Flynn	
Ernest R. Camara	
Daniel B. Amorim	

WATER RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION	
Robert Bruce	2011
Shirley Tufts	2010
Michael Somers	2012
Wayne P. Southworth, Local Water Resources Management Officer	
John J. Marsh, Operations Manager/Water Div.	

Fair and Affordable Housing Partnership	TERM EXP.
Mary Elizabeth Fitzgerald	2012
Donna Bonia	2012
Elisabeth Bornstein	2010
Rachel Hansen	2010
Calvin Harris	2011
Paula Puccinin	2011
Ghardy Daniel	2011

Affordable Housing Trust	
Christopher Dunlea	2011
Amy Rodrigues	2011
Tom Caron	2010
David Colton	2010
Susan Horner	2010
Ellen Barlow	2011
Stephen Merlin	2011

Human Rights Committee	
Veritta Pitts	6/30/2011
Carol Allen	6/30/2012
Susan Finn	6/30/2102
Patricia Hite	6/30/2012
Edmund Hands	6/30/2012
Dawn Richardson	6/30/2011
George Allen	
Jane Martin	6/30/2010
Colleen Corona	6/30/2010
Felicia McParland	6/30/2010

Green Committee	
Katie Loftus OAHS Student Rep	6/30/2010
Wendy Whitty	6/30/2012
Andrea Waldorf	6/30/2011
Stephen Drown	6/30/2010
Adrienne Edwards	
Ellen Barlow	6/30/2010
Colleen Less	6/30/2010

WORLD WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
John F. Hurley, Chair
Chairman, Board of Selectmen
Chairman, School Committee
Commander, George F. Schindler Post VFW
Commander, George S. Shepard Post, A.L.
John D. Melin
Robert J. McLaughlin
Robert Hicks
Ellen Barlow

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

In 2009, the effects of the worst global financial crisis in seventy years began to exact a toll on state and local government. State aid to cities and towns in Massachusetts was cut $724 million, forcing many communities to lay off employees, cut services and increase their reliance on property taxes to make ends meet. At the same time, many Easton residents were dealing with their own financial issues as unemployment reached all-time highs, and foreclosures rose to unprecedented levels. At the precise time our residents most needed town services, we were forced to consider making cuts to these very services our residents and taxpayers have come to rely upon.

Yet every crisis has a silver lining. Facing a precipitous decline in state tax revenue, a town budget increasingly out of balance, and the specter of reduced services, our town's unions – including all non-union employees – agreed to 6 month wage freeze and changes in health insurance contribution rates and plan design in order to avoid layoffs – an unprecedented show of fiscal responsibility. We thank every union in our community for recognizing the need to help out in these tumultuous fiscal times. Because of their willingness to acknowledge the severity of the fiscal situation, these concessions enabled us to balance the budget, along with select departmental cuts and use of stabilization funds. Yet, we know a difficult path remains ahead – with no expected improvement in the economy in sight, we know that next year we may well be faced with an even more dire financial situation.

Despite the gloomy fiscal picture, the Town did make tangible advances in several areas. Frothingham Hall re-opened as the new Town of Easton Senior/Recreation Center. The Board of Selectmen also continued to pursue solutions to our wastewater issues. In regional meetings with Old Colony Planning Council and surrounding communities, we developed a plan that begins to actively seek solutions to this issue in Easton. The Selectmen formed several committees to address needs in the community. The Human Rights Committee took the place of Easton's No Place for Hate Committee. The Green Communities Committee began working on energy savings programs for the Town and its residents. The Affordable Housing Trust completed a five-year action plan to provide more affordable housing options for our residents. The Board established a Local Historic District Study Committee to begin looking at ways to protect our most valuable historic treasures. The Cable Advisory Committee successfully completed its charge, and formed the non-profit Easton Community Access Television (ECAT) to produce community-based programming in Easton.

In April, Colleen Corona and John Haederle were both elected to their third term.

The Town was recognized with several awards in 2009. In March, Easton received a Common Cause Massachusetts e-Government Award with distinction. These awards honor towns and cities in Massachusetts that have made government more accessible via the Internet. Only 51 communities met the criteria for the award with distinction.

In April, the Town of Easton received an Environmental Merit Award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – a highly prestigious honor. The citizens of Easton were recognized for being at the forefront of open space preservation and environmental protection for more than 40 years. The award noted that the town has more than 3,000 acres of conservation land, which protects the habitats of rare and endangered species, and that the town has been proactive in water conservation and watershed protection, wetlands protection and environmental advocacy and planning.

In June, Easton was ranked 37th on *Money* Magazine's annual list of America's Best Small Towns. This was our second year on the list, and our community was noted for its open space and history.

Easton said goodbye to Police Chief Tom Kominsky, who retired after 29 years serving the Town. We thank him for his service and dedication to our community. We welcomed new Police Chief Allen Krajcik, and wish him the best of luck in the coming years.

Although 2009 was a year dominated by the global fiscal crisis, a crisis that was felt in every community, we were able to take small steps toward further improvements in our own community. Looking ahead, we continue to hope for the best but plan for the worst.

We would like to thank the employees of the town for their cooperation during these troubling times. We would also like to thank Town Administrator David Colton for his continued leadership, creativity and dedication to the citizens of Easton. We would also like to thank Mary Southworth and Kit Minsky, for their hard work and support in the Selectmen's office. Lastly, we would like to thank all those who volunteer for our community on a daily basis. Our quality of life is immeasurably strengthened by your support and service and we thank you.

As always, it is an honor and a privilege to serve as your Board of Selectmen. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen A. Corona, Chair
John S. Haederle, Clerk
Charles P. King
Irwin M. Cohen
Ellen Barlow

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The role of the Finance Committee is to make recommendations at the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) and Special Town Meetings regarding the Town's finances and other matters based on our diligent reviews and expertise. Our objective is to provide sufficient, objective information about the Town's financial situation in a straightforward manner in order to assist Easton citizens in making informed decisions and choices.

The Finance Committee consists of 9 members. We generally meet once a month June through January, increasing to often once a week during the budget review season February through May. Our criteria for meetings are: open discussion and debate; compromise on matters where alternatives may exist or pros and cons of action/inaction come under consideration; and, ultimately, consensus that ensures the best interests of the town as a whole are met. The Finance Committee is responsible for reviewing in detail the departmental budgets in advance of the ATM. We meet with Town department heads to discuss the quality and quantity of services being provided currently and as compared to historical services and services provided in comparable communities. We also discuss needs and expectations for future fiscal years.

Often, decisions and choices are easy to make. Sometimes, however, we are faced with difficult choices and decisions, difficult in terms of choosing between less than ideal alternatives or making recommendations that may not be popular. The ultimate decision-making usually lies with the Easton taxpayer. At a special town meeting this year, the taxpayers voted to approve the use of Community Preservation Act funds for Dean Mill. The Finance Committee recommended against this project as costly, of minimum benefit to the town as a whole, and opportunity lost to expend these funds for higher priority projects. As has become standard the past several years, the town meetings involving budget discussions and decisions were difficult. Having to reduce the town's budget after it was approved at the ATM due to a reduction in State aid was terribly hard. We believe we fulfilled our objective of providing Easton residents objective and fair assessments of matters. We will soon be starting our review of next year's budget and continue to face the same challenges of declining State and local revenues combined with increasing costs (for example, union contracts, health care premiums, and retirement benefits) consuming higher levels of our budget dollars. As always, we will apply the appropriate level of scrutiny to all department requests and help to ensure the judicious use of Town funds.

Finance Committee members participate in a variety of other committees and groups throughout the year. Our members are actively involved on the Budget Subcommittee, the Capital Planning Committee, and the Audit Committee, as well as in ad hoc groups formed to address specific situations and needs. As your elected officials, we are dedicated to serving the Town of Easton.

We enjoy effective working relationships with the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Superintendent of Schools, and the School Committee. We appreciate the efforts of all Town employees, especially the department heads, for working with us throughout the year, and look forward to continuing our mutually respectful collaboration for the benefit of the citizens of Easton.

We welcome new members Michael Ferrara, Sean Noonan, and Carol Nestler; and wish to thank Stacey Lincoln for her continued dedicated services as secretary to the Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Abelli, Chairman	Al Benson	Robert L. Hicks
Stephen Delano, Vice Chairman	Michael Ferrara	Carol Nestler
Kim Dubois, Clerk	Patrick A. Goodman	Sean Noonan

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Department of Revenue regulations now require assessors to review assessments on a yearly basis to see if they meet the statistical criteria contained in the Massachusetts General Laws. Median assessments must be at least 90 % of market value and not exceed 110% as determined by analysis of the previous year's sales. Assessments must also meet uniformity criteria that show all similar properties are being assessed by the same methodology. The results of analyzing the 2008 valid or "arm's length" sales showed that most residential values declined in value and the new fiscal year 2010 assessments reflect this decline. Sales continued to gradually decline during calendar 2009 and this will be reflected in the fiscal year 2011 assessments. Commercial and industrial value are determined by an income capitalization process that reacts more slowly to market variations and those values decreased slightly in 2008.

Decline in assessed values has little effect on real estate tax liability because the same amount of money needs to be raised whether the values decline, stay the same, or increase. If the values decline, the tax rate is proportionately higher and the reverse is true if values increase. Even if values remain the same, Prop 2½ allows increases to the overall amount the Town can raise. Due to these allowable increases, taxes normally will go up 3-4% a year.

Prior to setting the tax rate, the assessors are responsible for putting together information to aid the Board of Selectmen in its decision concerning classification. The Selectmen make the decision on whether to have a single or split tax rate.

Real estate overvaluation applications are reviewed by the Board of Assessors. The time frame for filing an overvaluation application is from late December when the actual bill comes out through the following February 1st. A postmark on or before February 1st from the US Post Office is a timely filing. The filing time period is set in the General Laws and late applications cannot be considered. Decisions on all applications are made by the assessors within three months of the filing date. Assessors can only look at the assessed value (not taxes) to determine if abatement is warranted. Decisions of the Board of Assessors can be appealed to the Appellate Tax Board within that Board's filing period.

The office works with the Council on Aging and the Veteran's Agent to alert elderly and veterans to changes in the laws governing statutory exemptions. Assessing staff spend a good deal of time on the phone and in the office helping our homeowners fill out applications.

Motor vehicle excise bill inquiries concerning abatements, place of garaging issues, and overvaluation of the vehicle are handled in this office. Staff is in constant contact with the Registry of Motor Vehicles trying to resolve issues for the taxpayers.

The Community Preservation Act Surcharge is assessed through this office and the Board processes exemptions to this surcharge.

Many reports for other departments and state agencies are generated from the assessors' data base. The report that is most requested is the abutters' list for public hearings.

The assessors' data is now on the Internet. The Assessing staff is working on upgrading the Assessing website to have more information and forms online.

A SUMMARY OF THE RECAPITULATION SHEET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 IS AS FOLLOWS:

Assessed Value of Real Estate	$ 3,012,820,650
Assessed Value of Personal Property	45,844,510
Total Assessed Value of Real & Personal Property	$ 3,058,665,160

EXPENDITURES:

Appropriations	$	66,803,164.00
Cherry Sheet Offsets & Misc.Charges		524,848.00
State & County Charges		735,739.00
Overlay Account		375,919.01
Total Expenditures	$	68,439,670.01

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDS:

State Receipts	$	12,923,942.00
Local Receipts		4,949,696.00
Enterprise Funds		3,831,713.00
Free Cash/Other Available Funds		2,965,006.00
Community Preservation Funds		2,507,920.00
Total Receipts & Available Funds	$	27,178,277.00

NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION	$	41,261,393.01

Tax Rate = 41,261,393.01/ 3,058,665,160 x 1000 = $13.49

The assessment date for fiscal year 2010 values was January 1, 2009. The Town now has 5,525 single-family homes, 1,415 condominiums, 159 two-family homes and 21 three-family homes. The average single family home for fiscal year 2010is $ 394,900.

Significant Dates for Taxpayers and Citizens regarding the Assessors' Office:

January 1st	Property Tax Assessment Date.
June30th	Property Tax Assessment Date for building permits. The Town adopted Chapter 653 of the Ma. General Laws at the Special Town Meeting in January, 2004. This changed the date from January 1st to June 30th for succeeding fiscal years.
February 1st	Payment of third quarterly tax bill and deadline for accepting appeals. The only time taxpayers can appeal assessments due to overvaluation or disproportionate assessment is from the time the actual bill is mailed in December through February 1st (or the next work day if February 1st falls on a weekend.)
March 1st	Date for submission of Forms of List. This is a listing of all business personal property and must be filed every year by anyone doing business in Town.
March	Exemption applications for elderly (over 65), blind persons, and disabled veterans with a rating from the VA, can be accepted up to three months from the time the actual tax bill is mailed the previous December. Applications are mailed in August to anyone qualifying in the previous year. Community Preservation Act exemptions may be

	submitted anytime after March 1st and must be accompanied by the income tax filing from the previous year. Contact the office for exemption forms.
May 1st	Payment of fourth quarterly tax bill.
August 1st	Payment of the 1st preliminary tax bill. Preliminary bills are based on at least one quarter of the taxes from the previous fiscal year. If significant changes have taken place such as subdivision of land or new construction taxes will be estimated accordingly. New construction will be based on whatever is complete on the previous June 30th.
November 1st	Payment of the 2nd preliminary tax bill.
December	Setting of the tax rate and mailing of the third quarterly bill that is the actual tax bill for the current fiscal year.

Telephone Number for questions or information: 508-230-0520

WALLY FULCHER	Chairman
GERALD J. NOONAN	Vice-Chairman
SHAUN FITZGERALD	Clerk

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON BOARD OF HEALTH

In compliance with the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, it is our pleasure to herewith submit to you a summary of the work done under the Board of Health for the year 2009.

During the year 2009 the Easton Board of Health underwent many changes. In June the Board saw the departure of its long time Director, Wade Saucier. The Board underwent another loss in August with the resignation of Dr. Roger Kilgler from the Board. September brought the arrival of Mark Taylor, REHS/RS to fill the newly created position of Public Health Agent. The town was also fortunate to have Jennifer Nichols appointed to fulfill the remainder of Dr. Kligler's term. The Board of Health continued to be supported by Ms. Kristin Kennedy, REHS/RS, Part Time Assistant Director, Mr. Timothy Meyers, Part Time Health Inspector, and Ms. Teressa Wooding, Office Assistant. The Board is also fortunate to have Mr. John Melin and Ms Elizabeth DeRosa as Animal Inspectors.

The Members of the Board of Health attended an annual certification seminar for Boards of Health. This seminar educated the Board members on public health issues and laws. The professionals within the office maintained their education requirements for their state licenses and certifications by attending seminars and classes throughout the year on a variety of topics.

The Board of Health met 29 times in public meeting forum this year.

The Board of Health responsibilities are numerous, varied and focused on community health. Our responsibilities can be viewed on the town's website www.easton.ma.us. Click on department tab then click Board of Health.

Board of Health amended the body art regulation reflect changes in the industry and its educational process.

The spring of 2009, brought new challenges as the town, along with the world, faced a pandemic flu situation. The H1N1 strain of the flu arrived in Massachusetts in April. While Easton had a small number of suspected cases, no cases were confirmed during the spring wave of flu. As part of the CDC response to the pandemic, Public Health Emergency Response (PHER) Grants were made available to the Commonwealth and her communities. Easton received grant monies which allowed for the planning and implementation of Flu prevention activates. The planning for the distribution of H1N1 vaccine became a high priority. These efforts were crippled by the initial slow flow of vaccine from suppliers to the State. The Board of Health did facilitate three clinics targeting our most at risk population, children. This group was done with the cooperation of the Easton Public Schools. Plans to vaccinate and educated the people of Easton continued through the end of the year, as we awaited the promised supply of vaccine.

Public health nursing services were provided by contractual agreement with Health Care Options, Inc., an affiliate of Community Visiting Nurse Agency (CVNA) of Attleboro. Ms. Maureen Cardarelli, R.N., the town's contact nurse, provided the Board with excellent service and professional advice throughout the year. The following activities and responsibilities were handled by the CVNA: Immunizations; Mantoux testing; Lead Level Screening; Health Promotion Clinics, for Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar, and Total Cholesterol Screening; Communicable Disease investigations; and Latent Tuberculosis Infections follow ups. The CVNA also served as the vaccine distribution center to a number of providers within the community for the Board of Health. The public health nurse was available for 3 hours each month at the Town Offices and Housing Authority for town residents or employees. The Town nurse facilitated one seasonal flu clinic and three H1N1 clinics.

As the town prepared for the Pandemic Flu, plans for utilizing our emergency dispensing sites were evaluated with the help of Amy Palmer , from the Bristol County Emergency Preparedness coalition.

With the help of Cheryl Bushnell, Coordinator for the Bristol County Medical Reserve Corps, the Town hosted two educational seminars for the town's Medical Reserve Corp volunteers covering the topics of Pandemic Influenza and Personal and Family Preparedness. The town is fortunate to have over 45 members of the community who have completed applications for Medical Reserve Corp volunteer program. Additional FEMA trainings were hosted for town staff and elected officials.

The rabies epizootic exists in the state of Massachusetts. Vaccinating domestic pets is advised as well as required by law in the State of Massachusetts. Two rabies clinics were sponsored by the Board of Health in April of this year. At the clinic, at total of 141 animals (89 dogs and 52 cats) were vaccinated.

The West Nile Virus (WNV) and the Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus (EEE) are both a public health concern. State wide there were no human cases of WNV or EEE. The State suspended testing of birds for WNV. Within Easton there were 2 mosquito pools which yielded 5 mosquitoes that tested positive for the EEE virus. Both viruses are passed on from the bird population to the mosquito and then, potentially to humans. As a preventative measure to control the viruses, Bristol County Mosquito Control Project offers an adult mosquito spraying program each spring which continues throughout the summer months. The spraying is done on request by either local residents or city/town officials.

There were 558 permits issued by the Board of Health. The breakdown is as follows: Body Art Establishment, 1; Body Art Practitioner, 1; Camps,10; Motels/Trailer Parks, 1; Food service including Mobil food, 213; Death Certificates,57 ; Dumpsters, 214; Dumpster Service, 22; Funeral Directors, 3; Disposal System Construction Permits, 99; Disposal Works Installer Permits, 45; Outdoor Sanitary Facilities, 0; Public/Semi-public Swimming Pools, 10; Tanning Facilities, 9; Tobacco Sales Permits, 34; Residential curbside 5; and Transport Offal,(septic Pump trucks) 19.

The office logged 41 complaints from the general public. If you have any questions, concerns, need advice or information, you may reach our office at 508-230-0620.

The Board appreciates the cooperation of the various town boards and departments and continues to work closely with the Department of Public Health and the Department of Environmental Protection and other agencies of the Commonwealth.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Kane, Chairman
Gil A. Heino
Jennifer Nichols

EASTON BOARD OF HEALTH

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The School Committee is pleased to submit the following report to the citizens of Easton.

In April's town election, Colleen Less, was elected to a three-year term. Mrs. Less, an attorney, who previously served on Easton's Board of Selectmen for three years, brings considerable experience and skill to the Committee. On November 1, 2009, Dawn Boynton resigned from the Committee, citing increasing professional and personal commitments. Mrs. Boynton was a member of the School Committee for eight and a half years, and her energy, enthusiasm, and dedication will certainly be missed.

On December 3, 2009, by a joint vote of the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, William Braun, PhD, was appointed to fill the vacancy created by Mrs. Boynton's resignation. He will remain in the position until the time of the next Town election in April of 2010. Dr. Braun, who has extensive experience in both academic and corporate settings, had previously been a member of the school board for thirteen years, until he chose not to seek reelection. We are extremely grateful to Dr. Braun for volunteering to serve on the Committee during a challenging time.

For the School Department, there were several significant developments in 2009. Superintendent William Simmons retired in early August. During his final months in the district, Dr. Simmons' numerous accomplishments during his sixteen years as Superintendent were frequently and resoundingly lauded by colleagues, parents, public officials, and other citizens. In April of 2009, Dr. Simmons was presented with the Outstanding Educational Leadership Award by the Easton Lions Club during their annual awards ceremony. In June, it was standing room only at an elaborate retirement reception for Dr. Simmons, who was surrounded by colleagues, past and present, who wished to express their admiration and their gratitude for the many positive initiatives he had championed over the years on behalf of the Easton Public Schools.

One of the major responsibilities of the School Committee is to appoint the Superintendent of Schools. At the beginning of 2009, the Committee continued the search for Dr. Simmons' replacement, a process initiated in the fall of the previous year. There were several dozen applicants who met all of the criteria for the position, and, after careful examination of the applications, nine candidates were selected for screening interviews. Four finalists were identified, and, after further review of resumes and references, the field was narrowed to two. Finalist interviews and site visits took place in March, and the School Committee named Michael Green, Ed.D., the new Superintendent of Schools on April 1, 2009. Dr. Green brings with him substantial administrative experience, as well as extensive knowledge of Easton's operational systems and educational programs. We feel fortunate to have found such a highly qualified candidate in our own backyard. Prior to his appointment to the top position in the district, Dr. Green had served the Easton Public Schools in a number of roles, including principal of the North Easton Grammar and Center Elementary Schools, Assistant to the Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendent of Schools. His sixteen years in the system prepared him well for his many and complex new responsibilities. Although the vote to appoint Dr. Green occurred in April, he did not officially assume the superintendency for several months, allowing time for him to work closely with Dr. Simmons to ensure a successful transition in leadership.

Dr. Green did not did not hesitate to grasp the reins of his new position with energy and enthusiasm, and he has been hard at work trying to ensure that the gains made during Dr. Simmons' tenure hold steady, while also promoting several new initiatives to build on those accomplishments and to move us forward.

The transition to a new system-wide grade configuration made possible by the renovation and expansion of the high school and middle school continued to go smoothly. In the fall of the previous year, the Moreau Hall, Parkview, and Center Schools had become pre-Kindergarten through second grade schools; the F.L. Olmsted and H.H. Richardson Schools became grades three to five schools; the Easton Middle School converted to a grade six through eight school; and Oliver Ames High School began serving grades nine through twelve. Feedback from administrators, faculty, parents, and students about the changes has been overwhelmingly positive.

Another key responsibility of the School Committee is to establish and revise policy. In February, after extensive discussion during School Committee meetings over a period of many months, and following two public informational meetings, the Committee voted to change the placement practice for students entering the third grade at the Olmsted and Richardson Schools. The new policy approved by the Committee removes the geographic focus for placement of students: instead of being assigned to one of two upper elementary schools based on neighborhood, third graders will be assigned based on what is deemed to be the optimal classroom environment for each of them in the Richardson-Olmsted "complex." The change is to be fully implemented in the fall of 2010, but planning for the new procedure began during the summer of 2009 and will continue through the summer of 2010. A group comprised of the five elementary principals, Dr. Green, and Allen Duarte, the Interim Assistant Superintendent, has met frequently to identify the challenges and opportunities that are presented by the new placement practice, and to determine ways effectively to address the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities. Their work together has proven to be a wonderful example of the successful outcomes that frequently occur with true collaboration and collegiality.

Construction of a new athletic field complex at Oliver Ames High School's Muscato Stadium, a project that includes accessible bleachers and press box, a new track, and an artificial turf field, was completed in July. The project, which had been approved by Town Meeting the previous spring, was finished on time and under budget. The complex has met with rave reviews by school and community athletic groups and sports fans.

The School Committee approved a budget for the 2009-2010 school year of $30,938,191, a one per cent increase over the previous year. Significant cost increases in several areas— special education, energy, and health insurance, among others—meant that the district actually lost ground. Several positions were eliminated, and there was a virtual freeze on new spending for educational programs and materials. The situation would have been worse if the Easton Educators Association and other unions had not agreed to salary and health insurance concessions, making it possible for us to avoid further staff reductions. The budget did allow the School Department to maintain essential academic and co-curricular offerings, but planned initiatives to enhance educational programs had to be put on hold. .

Despite Easton's successful operational override in June of 2006, only a handful of K-12 school systems in the Commonwealth currently spend less each year to educate a child. Our per pupil expenditure remains more than $1500 lower than the state average. We must continue to be creative in our efforts to meet the challenges presented by our relatively low funding. Despite ongoing financial constraints, we remain justifiably proud of our students' many accomplishments and extremely appreciative of the dedication and hard work of our administrators, faculty, and other staff. In addition, we are tremendously grateful to the hundreds of individuals—parents and other citizens—who volunteer their time on behalf of Easton's schools. Whether helping out in the classroom, planning enrichment activities, serving on school councils, or raising critically needed funds, our volunteers contribute vital support to our teachers and students.

Easton students continue to excel on a number of fronts. All of the members of the Oliver Ames Class of 2009 met the MCAS graduation requirement, as they have every year since the inception of the high stakes test. Ninety-six per cent of the class went on to pursue higher education, with ninety-two per cent enrolling in four-year colleges and universities, and four per cent opting to attend community colleges or technical institutes. Our students continue to score above state averages on the MCAS at every level, and to exceed national averages on the SAT's, advanced placement exams, and other standardized tests. Not surprisingly, students' performance outside the classroom is as impressive as their academic achievement. Year after year, children in the Easton Public Schools receive countless accolades and awards for their accomplishments in music, athletics, and visual arts.

During the year, the School Committee approved new curricula in the following subjects: Social Studies for Grades K – 6; Elementary Physical Education; Applied Chemistry; Chemistry I; and Chemistry II. Members of the School Committee were involved in numerous committees and initiatives in 2009, including the Foundation for Excellence in Education in Easton (FEEE), the Municipal Building Committee, the Budget Subcommittee, the Curriculum Coordinating Council, the Activate Easton Committee, the Campaign for Oliver Ames High School, the Human Rights Committee, and the Audit Committee. The Committee participated in Annual and Special Town Meetings, the New Teacher Orientation Program, the All-District Opening Day Program, and numerous other school-based activities and events.

In June, many administrators, faculty, and students mourned the sudden passing of Deborah Hart, a revered, and beloved, special education teacher at Olmsted School. Mrs. Hart's focus on the individual strengths and challenges of each of her students was a gift to those children and an inspiring example to her colleagues.

The School Committee extends its congratulations and very best wishes to retirees Ann Marie Barry, Bruce Field, Nancy Hauck, Judith Leonard, Susan Masse, Christine Margulies, Diane McGuire, Christine Midura, Joan Nicholaides, William Simmons, Patricia Svajian, and Margaret Webb. Although we hope the next stage of their lives brings each of them much happiness and fulfillment, we also feel a sense of regret as we bid farewell to these outstanding members of the Easton Public Schools administration, faculty, and staff. Their cumulative skill, talent, and experience have benefited the schoolchildren of Easton for a great many years.

The School Department's administrative offices are located at 50 Oliver Street, North Easton, and the main telephone number is 508-230-3200. The Committee welcomes suggestions and feedback from citizens about the educational and co-curricular programs that we offer to nearly 4000 students.

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline O'Neill, Chair

Jane Martin, Vice Chair

William P. Braun

Colleen Less

Rebecca Turley

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

During 2009, the Easton Public Schools continued to address new responsibilities and demands, while focusing on short and long-range plans to meet increased programmatic and staffing concerns. The support received from the citizens of Easton as a result of the successful operational override in June, 2006 was greatly appreciated, and allowed the school system in 2009 to maintain programs and positions, while continuing to address class size issues, the recommendations of the NEAS&C Accreditation Report, and increased special education and utility costs. At the same time, the collaboration between the School Committee, staff, parents and the community-at-large provided the foundation for a comprehensive and cohesive approach to the education of the students of Easton.

As this report indicates, the Easton Public Schools evidenced significant accomplishments and changes during the past year. In addition to the administrative, statutory and fiscal impacts that influenced the day-to-day operation of the school system, a number of events, achievements, and issues are indicative of the active and productive learning that takes place in the schools. This summary touches upon some of the details that made up the lives of the young people and adults of Easton during the past year.

STAFF CHANGES

The school system experienced a number of staff changes during the 2009 calendar year. Retirements included at the secondary level: Social Studies teacher Bruce Field, and English teacher and Department Chair Joan Nicholaides; Middle school level: French teacher Anne Marie Barry, Science teacher Diane McGuire; Elementary level: Pre-K PAL teacher/coordinator Nancy Hauck, Special Education teachers Judith Leonard and Margaret Webb, Art teacher Susan Masse, and first grade teachers Christine Midura and Patricia Svajian. Also retiring were Technology Coordinator Christine Margulies and Superintendent of Schools Dr. William Simmons.

Staff moving to other professional opportunities at the secondary level included: Librarian and Department Chair Caroline Hammond, Social Studies teacher Christopher Kerr, Guidance Counselor John Toland; middle school level: Title I teacher Kristine Botelho, Spanish teacher Christine Hochstein, Spanish teacher Tara Lucchetti-Araujo; elementary level: Grade 4 teacher Sarah Estabrook, Occupational Therapist Julia Martin, and Art teacher Jennifer Potts.

The Easton schools and the Town of Easton will certainly miss the professionalism, love of children and dedication shown by those staff members who have left the school system during this period of change and transition.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Class of 2009 was highly successful in reaching its goals. Approximately ninety-two percent enrolled in four-year colleges and universities, while four percent went on to junior colleges, community colleges, nursing schools or technical institutes. Four percent elected to join the world of work and/or the military.

The Class of 2009 also set a new record for accruing the largest financial aid total to date. The individual awards were a combination of collegiate, federal, state and local funds. The citizens of Easton continued their generosity by contributing to the many scholarships raised within the community.

Students continued to achieve well above national levels on the SATs. The Advanced Placement test scores in English Literature and Composition, United States History, American Political Science, Spanish, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Calculus indicated that approximately seventy-five percent of those taking the tests earned scores of 3 or above, thus entitling them to college credit. High school students also earned Commended Student status in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Easton students continued to take advantage of dual enrollment opportunities with area colleges while others were involved in coursework at Stonehill College for both high school and college credit. The Business and Technology Department's Shadow Program involved high school students shadowing local employers for a day in many area companies to learn about a previously selected occupation. Students were also involved in Career Speaker Day in which speakers from a myriad number of careers and occupations volunteered to meet with students, both in their classes and individually. In addition, the department continued with DECA (part of the Distributive Education Clubs of America), which is an international association of students studying marketing and management in business, finance, hospitality, and marketing sales and service.

High school and middle school students were again involved in three days of intensive training in conflict resolution and peer mediation strategies. The program is in its seventeenth year and has proven to be a very effective means of resolving peer issues and conflicts. Also, a number of Oliver Ames High School students participated in the American Legion Girls State program in late spring and in the Boys State program that was held at Stonehill College in June.

At the middle school, Peer Assistant Leaders provided assistance for new students. In addition to providing information to grade 5 students at the Olmsted and Richardson schools who would be moving to the middle school in September, students assisted at the afternoon and evening functions held at the middle school. The National Junior Honor Society welcomed 120 new members into the society and undertook a number of community service projects including the NRT Harvest Fair and tutoring students after school.

An outgrowth of this involvement at the middle school is the student organization HANDS through which Easton students dedicated themselves to promoting tolerance, respecting others, and focusing on ways to help achieve a non-discriminatory society. Also, the middle school guidance staff worked closely with HUGS II in coordinating after-school programs that included enrichment as well as entertainment for middle school students. Programs offered included sports activities, a homework club, a Kids Club, and student council.

In music, the Oliver Ames High School Marching Band and Color Guard, under the direction of the Band Director, Mr. Wheeler, competed in numerous competitions and exhibitions. The Band received a four-star rating in the annual MICCA Championships and First Place in both the New Bedford and King Phillip USSBA Competitions. The band also marched in the Easton Veterans Day Parade and the Easton Lions Holiday Festival Parade, and also won the Band Prize for their performance in the Brockton Christmas Parade.

Students in the OAHS Jazz Band also had a successful competition year first performing at the Norwood Jazz Classic receiving a Silver Medal. The Jazz Band took Third Place in their performance at the Berklee Jazz Festival and received a Gold Medal at the Jazz Southeast District Festival.

Students in the OAHS Show Choir and the Pit Band participated in the 25th Anniversary Baystate Show Choir Festival. The school system hosted more than 350 students from Easton and ten other communities across New England and Canada during the two-day festival. The Show Choir also competed in the Mill City Festival in Lowell, earning a Gold Medal. The Pit Band received an award for Best Instrumentals. In February, the Show Choir competed in the Central MA Show Choir Festival in Dudley receiving Gold Medals for their performance and the *Best in Showcase* award. At the Eastern Show Choir Festival in Waltham in March, the group received the Grand Champion Award and awards for Best Vocals, Best Choreography, and Best Instrumentals.

The 2009 OAHS musical production of "Guys and Dolls", directed by Mrs. Dalrymple, was an outstanding production and excellent learning experience for the students in the cast and the numerous staff and parents who took part. The show proved to be a crowd-pleaser as a staple in the musical theatre genre.

Students selected to participate in the Southeast Senior District Musical Festival included: Concert Choir – Kurt Eichorn, Aimee Fried-Hardy, Emma Irvine, Sarah Kawalek, Kathryn Kozak, Sophie Landry, Nicky

Maggio, Jonathan Raduazzo, Joshua Wise and Michael Roney; Orchestra – Guy Fredericks, Maria Hadge, Hayden Lizotte, Stephanie Mascary, and Noah Potash; Concert Band – Mary Donahue; Jazz Band – Connor Buckley and Ralph Peterson. Four Easton students, Nicky Maggio, Aimee Field-Hardy, Jonathan Raduazzo and Emma Irvine were chosen for All-State Chorus. Maria Hadge was selected for the All-State Orchestra, while Connor Buckley was selected for the All-State Jazz Band.

In the middle school, thirteen students were chosen for the Southeast Junior District Music Festival, with students being accepted into the festival in orchestra, band and chorus. Also, the EMS Show Choir earned a Silver Medal in the Central MA School Choir Festival in Dudley and went on to earn another Silver Medal in the Somerset Show Choir Classic Festival. The EMS Jazz Band participated in the Stoughton Junior MAJE Jazz Festival receiving a Gold Medal for their performance.

All five ensembles from EMS performed at the Great East Music Festival in Palmer. The Jazz Band received the highest "Platinum Award" and the chorus, band, orchestra and show choir received Gold Medals for their performances.

At the elementary level, concerts were held in January and June at the Olmsted/Richardson schools, and featured the combined Olmsted and Richardson fifth grade chorus and concert band. Fourth grade students participated in the two spring concerts held in June. In the three primary schools, students participated in musical tributes on Veterans Day and Memorial Day. Individual schools held many end-of-year musical productions that included outstanding student participation and individual and group performances.

The Art Department continued to oversee many contests so that Easton students had an opportunity to compete in a variety of arenas. A number of high school and middle school students were selected to participate in the state-wide *Boston Globe* Art Awards competition. There were many award winners from both the high school and middle school. High school students placed as follows: Bridget Bigelow-Gold Key, Michael Humphrey-Gold Key, Aaron Farrell-Silver Key, Melissa Kent-Honorable Mention, Kristen Vogler-Honorable Mention, and Taylor Athanasiou-Honorable Mention. Special recognition was given to Michael Humphrey who was awarded the Gold Key Award at the national level Alliance for Young Artists. Middle school students placed as follows: Jordan Lapides-Silver Key, Erin MacLeod-Silver Key, and Honorable Mention was awarded to Alecia Alleyne, Amanda Bragel, Garrett Goslin, Atirah Joseph, and Sean Kelly.

Twenty-five middle school students participated in the SMARTS Middle School Art Show, and sixth grade students Meghan Hurley and Erika Allen were first-place winners in the Lions Club Peace Poster Contest. Elementary students had their art work recognized through the Easton Water Department Poster Contest, with Ruksha Senthilkumar the first-place winner in grade three, Sofia Tempestoco the first-place winner in grade four, and Sioban Melina Finnerty the first-place winner in grade five. Student work was also exhibited at many locations throughout the year including the OAHS art gallery, the Attleboro Art Museum, the Transportation Building in Boston, the Easton Town Offices, the Easton Middle School Office Gallery, and the F. L. Olmsted and H. H. Richardson schools.

The Physical Education Department continued with the inclusion of "Quidditch" as part of the elementary curriculum. "Quidditch" provides a medium for interdisciplinary teaching and learning by applying imagery from reading lessons to an adaptation of the game of lacrosse. Classroom activities are connected with meaningful experiences in physical education that foster school spirit, respect, responsibility and good sportsmanship. Activities at the middle school continue to promote healthy choices and fitness. At the high school, students focused on an awareness of the health-related components of fitness by completing writing assignments on cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength, and endurance.

In Family and Consumer Sciences, students provided baked goods for families at the Conway House and made quilts which were donated to the Boston Medical Center Pediatric Ward. The department continued to alter prom gowns, make costumes for school plays, and operated the OAHS "Fix-It Shop". As part of the culinary activities, guest speakers Cheryl Straughter from Johnson and Wales and Stacy Dumont from Hesser College were invited to address the students. A new "Garden to Table" project was developed as an interdisciplinary program with Project Opportunity students.

In the Foreign Language Department, fifteen Spanish V students and their chaperone, Daniel Garzoglio, participated in the Exchange Program to La Mojonera, Spain. The trip included stays in Granada and Madrid. Nine students from Spain and their teacher spent two weeks in Easton as part of this exchange program.

Students continued to achieve in the various languages. Ten students received special recognition for their performance on the National Latin Exam: *Gold Summa Cum Laude* was awarded to Jessica Neary; *Silver Maxima Cum Laude* was awarded to Derrick Cheng and Anna Trilleras; *Magna Cum Laude* was awarded to Dennis MacLaine and Sarah Seltzer; *Cum Laude* was awarded to Dean Soucie, Rene MacKinnon, Patrick Drown, Stavros Batsinelas, and Gabrielle DaCosta. Also, six graduating seniors were presented outstanding achievement awards: Nicole Ayasse and Margaret Silva in French, Sarah Loftus and Kelly Fitzgerald in Spanish, and Samanatha Seserman and Raechel Perry in Latin.

Mathematics students in the secondary schools continued to score well above the norm in the state mandated MCAS exam, the SAT test, and Advanced Placement exams. This was the fifth year that Oliver Ames High School offered both the AB and BC level Advanced Placement Calculus courses, as well as Algebra III/Trigonometry. Also, the OAHS Mathematics Team, led by Mrs. Porter-Meglio, with students from Algebra II to AP Calculus, was quite successful on the challenging tests provided by the American Scholastic Mathematics Association. Students on the Middle School Mathematics Team, led by Mrs. Spillane, once again excelled in the American Mathematics competition. Senior recipients of the Oliver Ames Mathematics Achievement Award were Nicole Ayasse, Jay Stotsky, and Ben Walcott.

In the Science Department, Mrs. Brockman organized the Intermediate Science Olympiad at the F. L. Olmsted and H. H. Richardson Schools. Over one hundred Honors Chemistry students prepared and ran hands-on science activities for elementary students in grades 3-5. Over 1,150 elementary students participated in 34 activities. The activities focused on science processing and higher-level thinking skills which included graphing, extrapolation, measurement, estimation, inventing, communication, and inferring.

At the high school level, the Oliver Ames High School Science Team, under the supervision of coaches Ms. Annunziato and Mrs. Donohue, competed and earned a first place award in the regional Science Olympiad Competition.

In the English Department, the Humanities and AP classes attended August Wilson's Production of "Fences" in Boston. A visit to Oliver Ames High School was made by the Knighthorse Shakespeare Theater for the performance of "Romeo and Juliet" for freshmen students, "Macbeth" for sophomores and juniors, and "Hamlet" for seniors. Maria Hadge received the Charlene Howarth Award.

In Social Studies, students were involved in Community Service, Student Government Day, the Academic Bowl Team, the Mock Trial program, National History Day at grade 8, the two-day Hockomock Senate, Grade 6 Geography Bee, and the VFW Voice of Democracy Contest.

Lauren Achey was the winner of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy Speech contest, while National History Day winners included Denali Bennett, Keara Benton, Kevin Grant, Davis Healy, Gwen Kozak, Olivia Marcus, John Morley, and Christina Watson. Amanda Seigal was the recipient of the Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Elementary school students continued to achieve and find success in a variety of forums. Among the areas to be highlighted are the following: the "Jump Rope for Heart" initiative; the annual school-wide art shows at both the Richardson School and the Olmsted School; the Bullying Education Program for grade 4 and grade 5 students; Mother/Daughter and Father/Son Nights; and the grade 5 National Geography Bee.

Other elementary activities included ongoing community service endeavors; the Dr. Seuss' birthday reading celebration activities; Open Circle/Social Competency Programs; Firefighter Phil and the SAFE Fire Safety Program; the International Lions Club Peace Poster Contest; Portfolio Breakfasts; and, individual school programs for students such as student councils, school stores, student newsletters and newspapers, reading incentive programs, family math and literacy nights, summer reading programs, and citizen of the month recognition.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Educational research continues to show that enhancing teacher effectiveness through professional development has a clear connection to student achievement. All Easton Public Schools' professional development programs and activities continue to be linked to the district's school improvement initiatives. The members of the Easton Public Schools' professional staff continued to build on their knowledge by participating in a number of both in-house and off-site professional development programs. During the 2009 calendar year, more than a third of the teaching staff participated in coursework at area colleges and universities. Thirty-four professional development workshop programs, many of which included multiple sessions, were conducted on site. These workshops included more than 1,100 instances of staff participation. A graduate course offered through Endicott College (Introduction to 2nd Language Learning and Teaching) was held on site. A total of 33 staff members were enrolled in that course.

As part of the Easton Public Schools' Mentor Program, all first and second year professional staff members continued to receive guidance and support from an assigned mentor. A total of seventy-two staff members (mentors and protégés) worked together in our mentor program.

The primary professional development goal at the elementary level continued to be improving student achievement in Reading and English Language Arts. In order to support that goal, all K-6 reading teachers participated in a series of reading comprehension workshops during the 2009 calendar year. In addition, several sessions on the topic of enhancing student achievement with Open Response Questions were held. Nationally recognized author and educator, Stephanie Harvey, returned to Easton to work with our elementary teachers this past spring.

The professional development focus at Easton Middle School and at Oliver Ames High School this past year was on maximizing the use of the X2 software grade book program, as well as use of the Interactive Whiteboards. By allowing teachers to display, store, and retrieve information for the class from the internet, as well as from various computer programs such as Microsoft Word or excel, the Interactive Whiteboards provide Easton teachers with a state of the art instructional tool for use in the classroom setting. The whiteboards were purchased with funds obtained through the building addition/renovation projects. The 2008-2009 professional development training at the middle school and the high school regarding the X2 grade book program as well as the Interactive Whiteboards was provided for faculty by faculty. After receiving initial training as part of a "Train the Trainer" model, teacher leaders served to provide training and follow-up support for subject and/or grade level colleagues. The "Train the Trainer" model has been very well received by staff and has produced very positive results.

CURRICULUM/TECHNOLOGY

Co-Chairs Debra DiCenso, Center School Principal, and Robert Smith, Moreau Hall Principal continued to serve as co-chairs of the Easton Public Schools' Standing Task Force for English Language Arts and Reading (STELAR). Vanessa Beauchaine, Parkview School Principal, and Mary Romans, Mathematics Department Chair, served as Co-chairs of the Easton Public Schools' Math Committee. These committees are comprised of teachers from the school district and provide leadership and direction regarding curriculum, instruction, professional development, and student learning initiatives. Both groups continue to meet on a regular basis with the goal of enhancing our educational programs.

A K-5 Report Card Committee, which includes representatives from each elementary school, continued its second year of work regarding the development of a new Standards Based Reporting System.

The McDougal Littell Math Program, which is in its second year of implementation at Easton Middle School, is helping to support student achievement in mathematics. As expected, the program is building on the success that has been realized with our K-6 EveryDay Math Program (EDM).

STELAR is sustaining its goal of improving student achievement in Reading and English Language Arts (ELA). Administrators and teacher leaders continued to support staff members as we worked to maintain a system-wide approach that employs a consistent set of reading and thinking strategies in all K-6 classrooms. These research-based strategies include students monitoring their comprehension, bridging background knowledge with their current reading, making connections, and developing questions about their reading. Students are also learning to make predictions, draw inferences, create visualizations, and determine importance in their reading material, as well as synthesize and summarize what they read. These research-based reading and thinking strategies have proven to be quite effective in schools across the country. Feedback to date from staff regarding the implementation of these strategies has been positive and we remain confident that, in time, our continued emphasis in this important area will serve to support our goal of increasing student achievement in Reading and English Language Arts.

As part of the curriculum review cycle, the Easton School Committee adopted the following new curriculum documents during the 2009 calendar year: Social Studies (K-6), Physical Education (K-5), and High School Chemistry. Curriculum documents are used by teachers as part of their lesson planning, in providing instruction, and assessing student learning. The Curriculum Coordinating Council (CCC), which is comprised of faculty, administrators, and school committee representatives, continues to review and approve all district curriculum documents prior to School Committee review and adoption.

MCAS 2009

Again this year, Easton Public Schools' 2009 MCAS scores showed solid results throughout the district. Our results continue to exceed the State averages and compare quite favorably with scores of other districts across the Commonwealth. Our overall results placed the Easton Schools in the top twenty-five percent of all Massachusetts school districts.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

At Oliver Ames High School, more than fifty percent of all students participated in an athletic activity and approximately twenty five percent participated in music or drama.

A number of our varsity sports teams did extremely well this past year. During the winter season, the boys' and girls' varsity basketball teams had successful seasons in the Hockomock League with the girls' team finishing in first place. Both teams participated in the State Tournament. The ice hockey team also completed a successful season and earned a berth in the State Tournament. Both the boys' and girls' winter track teams also had successful seasons and had athletes participate in the State Meet. Members of the boys' and girls' swim teams also qualified to participate in their respective State Meets.

This past spring, the boys' varsity baseball team and the girls' lacrosse team qualified for the State Tournament with both teams earning first-round wins. The girls' softball team also qualified for the State Tournament. Members from the boys' and girls' tennis teams as well as the boys' and girls' track teams also qualified for State Tournament play.

During the fall season, both the boys' and girls' cross country team had successful years and performed very well in the Class Championships. The girls' volleyball team also completed a very successful season and advanced to the State Tournament. The boys' and girls' soccer teams also participated in their respective State Tournaments.

In addition to the 25 varsity sports teams, students had the opportunity to participate in 14 junior varsity programs, 6 freshman programs, and 6 programs at Easton Middle School.

The Easton community and various booster groups again made significant contributions to our athletic program, helping to purchase new uniforms and to sponsor end-of-the-year awards banquets. The creation seven years ago of the Hall of Fame in Easton also evidenced the wonderful support and direction provided by the residents of the town. The student athletes and coaches of Easton Public Schools are again extremely appreciative of the emotional, financial and fan support provided by the community.

CONCLUSION

This past year was again a time of significant change and transition within the school system. We continue to be extremely concerned about inadequate State Aid and the availability of appropriate resources to meet the expectations that we have for ourselves and our student population. We greatly appreciate the support of the Easton community that resulted in the successful passage of the operational override; the School Parent Advisory Councils, School Councils, and our various booster groups; the extraordinary efforts of F.E.E.E. and the S.A.F.E. organization; the hard work and dedication of the School Committee; and, the excellent and cooperative working relationships among all the members of the entire staff as well as between the schools and the town.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Green
Superintendent of Schools

2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ralph Armstead, School Committee Member

Overview

The Southeastern Regional School District offers twenty-four vocational/technical training programs at its four-year high school and full-year post-secondary program at the Southeastern Technical Institute. In 2008-2009, the School Committee included Mark Linde and Wayne McAllister—Brockton; Joseph Dutcher—East Bridgewater; Ralph Armstead—Easton; Daniel Iagatta, III—Foxborough; William Flannery—Mansfield; Christopher DeLeo—Norton; Mindy Kempner, Chairperson—Sharon; Roberta Harback—Stoughton; and Robert Sullivan—West Bridgewater. Luis Lopes is the Superintendent of Schools. On October 1, 2008, there were 1,251 students enrolled in the high school, 123 adults were enrolled in the day program and over 300 attended the many evening programs. There were 69 high school students attending from Easton. Ralph Armstead represents Easton on the Regional School District Committee.

High School

Under the direction of Principal David Wheeler, the Southeastern Regional High School offered twenty vocational-technical programs for the high school students from Brockton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Foxborough, Mansfield, Norton, Sharon, Stoughton and West Bridgewater. The school's mission is to unite our learning community by teaching and developing the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to lead lives of responsibility and achievement.

Southeastern Regional High School graduated 250 students in June, 2009, and had 98% of the seniors pass the state required MCAS test. The Class of 2009 graduates also had a ninety-eight percent placement rate in full-time jobs, the military or post-secondary education.

Southeastern academics have continued to be strengthened over the past year, as evidenced by the school meeting its Adequate Yearly Progress Targets in all subgroups for the second year in a row. As a result, Southeastern was one of only four schools in the state to be removed from the list of underperforming schools. To supplement regular instruction, Southeastern began offering academic courses online to interested students through an association with Virtual High School. This has proved extremely successful and we have plans to expand the offerings during the next semester.

Based on recommendations from our program advisory committees, Southeastern instituted a school wide "Workplace Readiness" credential for students pursuing employment through our cooperative education program. In order to be eligible to participate in the program, students must pass a standardized assessment designed to measure their ability to problem-solve and communicate in the workplace. During the 2008-2009 school year, 100% of eligible students passed this assessment.

Southeastern Regional, like other district high schools, offers a wide range of interscholastic sports programs at all levels for boys and girls and competes in the Mayflower League. Southeastern Regional's Varsity Football Team played in the Massachusetts Vocational Super Bowl, the wrestling team competed in the NHSCA tournament, and the Lady Hawks Basketball Team made it to the finals.

There are also many extracurricular activities such as clubs, community service programs, and the traditional honor societies to assist students in our nine communities to develop mind and body. Several Southeastern students medaled in the Massachusetts SkillsUSA district and state competitions and the Construction Challenge Team placed second in their annual competition.

Technical Institute

Southeastern Technical Institute, the adult and community educational component of the Southeastern Regional School District, provides four full-time day diploma programs and six part-time diploma and certificate programs. STI Director David Degan oversees the operation of the Technical Institute. Last year, STI served over 200 adults in our full and part-time programs. The full-time day programs include Administrative Office Technology, Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting and Practical Nurse. The evening programs include: Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, Massage Therapy, Medical Health Claims Specialist, PC Specialists, Phlebotomy and Practical Nurse.

Each year, Southeastern students and staff complete thousands of hours in community service as part of their educational experience. The Practical Nursing programs, both day and evening, Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, Administrative Office Technology, and Massage Therapy all have externships/clinical experiences as part of the curriculum requirement for graduation.

Southeastern offers three semesters of evening school classes each year to the southeast communities. Last year over 600 adults registered and participated in our evening school classes. Evening school classes are scheduled Monday through Thursday, and range from one-night seminars to two and three night per week courses. The class offerings focus on career courses that enhance one's skills for present employment or ready a person for a new career path. A focus is placed on providing courses that have met national standards and provide nationally recognized certifications. Course information is distributed via a printed brochure mailed three times a year and by the website www.sti-tech.info. We continue to recruit new evening school teachers and look for new programs.

The school's mission is to provide adults with the education and skills for gainful, meaningful employment. To accomplish this, STI is constantly investigating new and emerging career paths, working with community agencies and employers to define the skills needed for employment in a career field with employment potential, advancement, and growth.

Southeastern Technical Institute continues to work closely with area businesses offering customized training to meet the needs of area companies in Machine Technology, Electrical and Plumbing apprenticeship classes, Electronics, Cabinetmaking and HVAC. STI also provided certificate courses in OSHA, EPA, Oil Burner and ServSafe certification. Also, various computer classes at all levels in AutoCAD, Excel, Word, QuickBooks and web design have been offered to the general public and customized programs have been developed for area companies. More and more companies are recognizing the valuable resources of the expert teaching staff and facilities available at STI.

Southeastern has also partnered with community agencies such as Career Works, Mass Rehab, Displaced Homemakers, Department of Employment and Training, Workforce Investment Board, the City of Brockton Mayor's Office on Higher Education, and the Metro-South Chamber of Commerce offering adult educational programs.

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2009 EASTON GRADUATES

Haylee Anderson
Christopher Bryant
Amanda Cann
Timothy Crouch
Roy Cruthird
Iliana Diaz
Alissa Donovan
James Fernandes
Jessica Florio
Adam Lepro
Anthony Meninno
Jacob Patsavos
Justin Pitts-Anaya
Nathaniel Sayles
Walter Valenzuela

Report of the Town Collector
for the Year Ending June 30, 2009

	Uncollected Taxes June 30, 2008	Commitments	Abatements Adjustments & Disclaimers	Tranfers to Tax Title	Collections, Net of Refunds	Uncollected Taxes June 30, 2009
Personal Property						
Prior Years	1,910	-	-	-		1,910
2004	2,085	-	-	-		2,085
2005	6,877	-	-	-	-	6,877
2006	5,830	-	-	-	-	5,830
2007	(318)	-		-	(6,083)	5,765
2008	2,637			-	(3,822)	6,459
2009		571,891	1,649		554383.42	15,859
	$ 19,021	$ 571,891	$ 1,649	$ -	$ (9,906)	$ 28,927
Real Estate						
Prior Years	520	-	-	-	-	520
2006	(1,254)	-	-	-		(1,254)
2007	6,371			5,458	(2,468)	3,381
2008	733,884		5,677	208,163	517,481	2,563
2009	(22,692)	38,861,391	174,251	3,064	37,670,133	991,251
	$ 716,829	$ 38,861,391	$ 179,928	$ 216,685	$ 38,185,146	$ 996,460
Motor Vehicle Excise						
Prior years	70,676	-	-	-	1,514	69,162
2004	17,105	-	-	-	1,866	15,239
2005	16,758			-	3,959	12,799
2006	28,583		933	-	8,873	18,777
2007	88,107	10,202	5,018	-	47,533	45,758
2008	270,542	378,260	37,941	-	531,702	79,159
2009		2,501,377	65,329		2,239,870	196,178
	$ 491,771	$ 388,462	$ 109,221	$ -	$ 595,447	$ 240,895
Trash User Fees						
2008	20,523		1,343	-	12,031	7,149
2009	44,282	559,978	8,757	-	545,736	49,768
2010	-	186,343	-	-	140,741	45,602
	$ 44,282	$ 746,321	$ 8,757	$ -	$ 686,476	$ 95,370
Water Rates and Services	$ 327,021	$ 3,197,640	$ -	$ 196,058	$ 2,991,610	$ 336,994

Report of the Town Treasurer
July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

Bank Accounts	Balance June 30, 2008	+ Receipts	-Payments	Balance June 30, 2009
Cash - includes general fund, capitol projects, special revenues, enterprise funds, and agency funds	$ 19,956,196.48	$ 88,494,527.39	$ 88,349,124.66	$ 20,101,599.21
Trust Funds				
Stabilization Fund	$ 2,587,452.50	$ 80,804.78	$ -	$ 2,668,257.28
Conservation Fund	$ 797,058.22	$ 12,728.17	$ 300,123.00	$ 509,663.39
Unemployment Compensation	$ 53,549.56	$ 1,016.57	$ 5,755.38	$ 48,810.75
Police Forefeiture Account	$ 7,007.26	$ 765.01		$ 7,772.27
Law Enforcement Trust Fund	$ 7,315.33	$ 130.00		$ 7,445.33
Mary Stone Library Fund	$ 6,129.38	$ 99.18		$ 6,228.56
Subtotal	**$ 3,458,512.25**	**$ 95,543.71**	**$ 305,878.38**	**$ 3,248,177.58**
				$ -
Scholarship Funds				$ -
Ellen Atwood	$ 2,288.05	$ 37.02		$ 2,325.07
Parker Ames	$ 113,540.70	$ 16,704.94	$ 46,150.19	$ 84,095.45
Mary A. Stone	$ 6,780.79	$ 109.72		$ 6,890.51
World War Memorial	$ 53,100.19	$ 1,633.10	$ 3,000.00	$ 51,733.29
Young	$ 3,429.26	$ 55.49		$ 3,484.75
Subtototal	**$ 179,138.99**	**$ 18,540.27**	**$ 49,150.19**	**$ 148,529.07**
Cemetery Perpetual Care Funds				
Furnace Village Cemetery	$ 23,819.24	$ 371.28	$ 1,171.87	$ 23,018.65
Pine Grove Cemetery	$ 4,168.31	$ 67.45		$ 4,235.76
Immaculate Conception	$ 8,415.45	$ 136.18		$ 8,551.63
South Easton	$ 10,961.14	$ 177.36		$ 11,138.50
Unionville & Town Cemeteries	$ 14,679.21	$ 237.52		$ 14,916.73
Subtotal	**$ 62,043.35**	**$ 989.79**	**$ 1,171.87**	**$ 61,861.27**
Total Cash	**$ 23,655,891.07**	**$ 88,609,601.16**	**$ 88,705,325.10**	**$ 23,560,167.13**

TOWN OF EASTON, MASS.
INCORPORATED. 1725

ANNUAL REPORT OF TAX TITLE

Balance - June 30, 2008			**$757,728.85**
Additions:			
New Tax Takings	$	208,162.81	
Deductions:			
Redemptions:	$	418,345.84	
Deferrals	$	-	
Balance - June 30, 2008			**$547,545.82**

Annual Report of the Town Treasurer/Collector
Debt Statement

FY2009

Long Term Debt Inside the Debt Limit	Outstanding July 1, 2008	+ New Debt Issued	- Retirements	= Outstanding June 30, 2009	Interest Paid in FY2009
Buildings	60,000.00		20,000.00	40,000.00	2,450.00
Departmental Equipment	175,000.00	0.00	75,000.00	100,000.00	5,688.00
School Buildings	19,310,000.00	0.00	720,000.00	18,590,000.00	822,106.00
School - All Other	1,425,000.00		95,000.00	1,330,000.00	52,298.00
Sewer	137,298.00	12,052.00	21,480.00	127,870.00	4,448.00
Solid Waste	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Inside	2,927,860.00	0.00	437,745.00	2,490,115.00	127,246.00
SUB - TOTAL Inside	$24,035,158.00	$12,052.00	$1,369,225.00	$22,677,985.00	$1,014,236.00

Long Term Debt Outside the Debt Limit	Outstanding July 1, 2008	+ New Debt Issued	- Retirements	= Outstanding June 30, 2009	Interest Paid in FY2009
Airport	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gas/Electric Utility	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
School Buildings	12,895,000.00	0.00	1,225,000.00	11,670,000.00	540,925.00
Sewer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Solid Waste	3,682,140.00	0.00	302,255.00	3,379,885.00	145,584.00
Water	2,920,000.00	0.00	500,000.00	2,420,000.00	112,089.00
Other Outside	91,714.00	0.00	7,657.00	84,057.00	4,777.00
SUB - TOTAL Outside	$19,588,854.00	$0.00	$2,034,912.00	$17,553,942.00	$803,375.00
TOTAL Long Term Debt	$43,624,012.00	$12,052.00	$3,404,137.00	$40,231,927.00	$1,817,611.00

Short Term Debt	Outstanding July 1, 2008	+ Issued	- Retired	= Outstanding June 30, 2009	Interest Paid in FY2009
RANs - Revenue Anticipation				0.00	
BANs - Bond Anticipation:					
Buildings	785,000.00	510,000.00	785,000.00	510,000.00	19,570.00
School Buildings	6,290,000.00	7,215,000.00	6,290,000.00	7,215,000.00	156,813.00
Sewer				0.00	
Water	390,000.00	265,000.00	390,000.00	265,000.00	9,723.00
Other BANs	0.00	1,630,000.00	0.00	1,630,000.00	0.00
SANs - State Grant Anticipation				0.00	
FANs - Federal Gr. Anticipation				0.00	
Other Short Term Debt				0.00	
TOTAL Short Term Debt	$7,465,000.00	$9,620,000.00	$7,465,000.00	$9,620,000.00	$186,107.00
GRAND TOTAL All Debt	$51,089,012.00	$9,632,052.00	$10,869,137.00	$49,851,927.00	$2,003,716.00

Authorized and Unissued Debt

Purpose	Date of Vote	Article Number	Amount Authorized	- Issued - Retired - Rescined	= Unissued 6/30/2008
Library	09/07/06	4	700,000.00	664,000.00	36,000.00
Septic WMPAT	05/11/98	60	200,000.00	137,657.00	62,343.00
Water Addition	06/04/01	8	150,000.00	0.00	150,000.00
Library Access Rd	05/20/02	12	400,000.00	0.00	400,000.00
School	01/13/03	22	66,000,000.00	53,372,391.00	12,627,609.00
School	12/07/04	5	13,525,935.00	0.00	13,525,935.00
Water Tank	06/12/06	28	600,000.00	450,000.00	150,000.00
Capital Improvements	05/21/07	23	425,000.00	265,000.00	160,000.00
School Boilers	05/19/08	11	250,000.00	0.00	250,000.00
Valentine Muscato Stadium	05/19/08	11	1,400,000.00	0.00	1,400,000.00
Ambulance & Police Cruiser	05/19/08	11	230,000.00	0.00	230,000.00
					$28,991,887.00

SUB - TOTAL from additional sheet(s)	$0.00

TOTAL Authorized and Unissued Debt	$28,991,887.00

Short Term Debt Report by Issuance	Outstanding July 1, 2008	+ Issued	- Retired	= Outstanding June 30, 2009	Interest Paid in FY2009
April 25 2008 BAN - school	6,000,000.00		6,000,000.00	0.00	149,583.00
April 25 2008 BAN - water tank	390,000.00		390,000.00	0.00	9,723.00
April 25 2008 BAN - sch/elec	290,000.00		290,000.00	0.00	7,230.00
April 25 2008 BAN - library	520,000.00		520,000.00	0.00	12,964.00
April 25 2008 BAN - remodeling	265,000.00		265,000.00	0.00	6,607.00
April 24 2009 BAN - school		7,000,000.00		7,000,000.00	
April 24 2009 BAN -water tank		265,000.00		265,000.00	
April 24 2009 BAN - sch/elec		215,000.00		215,000.00	
April 24 2009 BAN - library		390,000.00		390,000.00	
April 24 2009 BAN -remodeling		120,000.00		120,000.00	
April 24 2009 BAN -stadium		1,400,000.00		1,400,000.00	
April 24 2009 BAN -dept equip		230,000.00		230,000.00	
TOTAL	7,465,000.00	9,620,000.00	7,465,000.00	9,620,000.00	186,107.00

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Wendy V. Nightingale, Town Accountant
Adilia Collazo, Assistant Town Accountant
Margaret Horne, Principal Clerk
TEL: (508) 230-0560
FAX: (508) 230-0569
E-Mail: wnightingale@easton.ma.us

I hereby submit the report of the Town Accountant for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009, which includes the balance sheet as of that date and the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund equity.

The office of the Town Accountant is responsible for the accounting and control of all town funds, disbursements, and financial records in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and by-laws of the Town of Easton. In addition, responsibilities include maintenance of the Town's general ledger system including detailed records of cash receipts, appropriations and expenditures, and the closing of all financial books at the end of the fiscal year. The Town Accountant prepares financial statements and reports, assists in the preparation of the Town budget and works with the independent auditors on the annual financial and compliance audit. Our annual audit for the fiscal year was completed by Melanson, Heath & Company, PC of Andover, Massachusetts.

During 2009, the Accounting Department and offices of the Collector/Treasurer and School Business Manager worked together to implement conversion to new financial accounting software taking effect on July1, 2009. The new software allows the town and school department to process accounts payable and payroll on the same system rather than two different ones and integrates tax collections with the general ledger. It was a considerable undertaking and I would like to thank these departments for their cooperation during this transition and personally recognize and both my assistant, Adilia Collazo and principal clerk, Peg Horne for their hard work.

I would also like to thank all the Town Departments, Boards, Commissions and Committees for their cooperation and support this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy V. Nightingale
Town Accountant

TOWN OF EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP
JUNE 30, 2009

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Group	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt	Total (Memorandum Only)
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	5,667,684.64	11,205,130.96	194,309.36	1,400,721.91	5,089,406.60		23,557,253.47
Receivables:							
Real estate taxes	968,044.69	31,819.10	-	-	-	-	999,863.79
Personal property taxes	44,784.96	-	-	-	-	-	44,784.96
Tax liens and foreclosures	915,561.76	-	-	-	-	-	915,561.76
Water user charges receivable	-	-	-	963,980.46	-	-	963,980.46
Water liens	-	-	-	32,569.13	-	-	32,569.13
Betterments	-	38,645.91	-	58,383.35	-	-	97,029.26
Trash collection fees receivable	-	-	-	103,991.75	-	-	103,991.75
Motor vehicle excise and other excise	436,242.79	-	-	-	-	-	436,242.79
Departmental and other	606,817.07	60,514.29	-	-	-	-	667,331.36
Intergovernmental	-	329,898.52	-	-	-	-	329,898.52
Inventory	-	-	-	71,388.24	-	-	71,388.24
Fixed assets, net	-	-	-	34,164,262.00	-	-	34,164,262.00
Amount to be provided for payment of long-term obligations	-	-	-	-	-	37,547,499.50	37,547,499.50
Total Assets	8,639,135.91	11,666,008.78	194,309.36	36,795,296.84	5,089,406.60	37,547,499.50	99,931,656.99
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY							
Liabilities:							
Warrants payable	1,448,666.45	1,190.08	-	-	-	-	1,449,856.53
Accrued liabilities	1,025,105.14	-	-	132,558.00	-	-	1,157,663.14
Retainage Payable	-	-	715,800.00	-	-	-	715,800.00
Deferred revenue	2,971,451.27	460,877.82	-	103,991.75	-	-	3,536,320.84
Tax refunds payable	16,925.20	-	-	-	-	-	16,925.20
Other liabilities	175,746.89	21,030.98	-	-	1,259,764.39	-	1,456,542.26
Notes payable	-	-	9,355,000.00	265,000.00	-	-	9,620,000.00
General long-term debt	-	-	-	2,684,427.50	-	37,547,499.50	40,231,927.00
Total Liabilities	5,637,894.95	483,098.88	10,070,800.00	3,185,977.25	1,259,764.39	37,547,499.50	58,185,034.97
Fund Equity:							
Contributed capital	-	-	-	18,921,411.00	-	-	18,921,411.00
Retained earnings:							
Reserved	-	-	-	241,284.87	-	-	241,284.87
Unreserved	-	-	-	14,446,623.72	-	-	14,446,623.72
Fund Balances:							
Reserved for encumbrances	208,402.41	5,100.00	-	-	-	-	213,502.41
Reserved for continuing appropriations	375,436.66	-	-	-	-	-	375,436.66
Reserved for expenditures	967,558.00	2,133,476.71	-	-	967,109.00	-	4,068,143.71
Reserved for nonexpendable trust principal	-	-	-	-	74,295.69	-	74,295.69
Reserved for unexpended exempt debt	177,762.48	-	-	-	-	-	177,762.48
Reserved for petty cash	600.00	-	-	-	-	-	600.00
Unreserved:							
Designated for snow & ice deficit	(349,205.39)	-	-	-	-	-	(349,205.39)
Undesignated	1,620,686.80	9,044,333.19	(9,876,490.64)	-	2,788,237.52	-	3,576,766.87
Total Fund Equity	3,001,240.96	11,182,909.90	(9,876,490.64)	33,609,319.59	3,829,642.21	-	41,746,622.02
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	8,639,135.91	11,666,008.78	194,309.36	36,795,296.84	5,089,406.60	37,547,499.50	99,931,656.99

TOWN OF EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND EQUITY
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Group	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt	Total (Memorandum Only)
Revenues							
Property taxes	39,202,683.60	885,602.48	-	-	-	-	40,088,286.08
Excise taxes	2,822,054.38	-	-	-	-	-	2,822,054.38
Penalties, interest & fines	304,181.46	2,894.82	-	22,317.37	-	-	329,393.65
Licenses, permits and fees	1,375,776.41	-	-	-	-	-	1,375,776.41
Investment income	56,833.48	278,588.18	-	54,752.83	69,154.42	-	459,328.91
Departmental	-	1,142,123.27	-	-	-	-	1,142,123.27
Intergovernmental - state	13,032,652.18	2,183,710.64	856,840.00	-	-	-	16,073,202.82
Intergovernmental - federal	-	2,171,231.30	-	-	-	-	2,171,231.30
User charges	-	-	-	3,552,616.05	-	-	3,552,616.05
Other	784,684.19	2,016,915.62	6,300.00	5,284.29	138,394.97	-	2,951,579.07
	57,578,865.70	8,681,066.31	863,140.00	3,634,970.54	207,549.39	-	70,965,591.94
Expenditures							
General government	10,956,773.09	122,673.79	-	-	227,618.02	-	11,307,064.90
Public safety	7,116,484.19	1,076,608.83	209,969.00	-	5,839.00	-	8,408,901.02
Education	30,909,434.12	4,161,850.01	3,274,557.56	-	9,135.34	-	38,354,977.03
Public works	3,140,856.16	717,649.04	6,501.74	636,248.14	-	-	4,501,255.08
Water	-	-	-	2,262,101.90	-	-	2,262,101.90
Human services	666,057.98	36,284.15	-	-	-	-	702,342.13
Culture and recreation	541,622.42	388,110.15	-	-	-	-	929,732.57
Debt service	4,536,389.97	107,850.00	-	138,406.50	-	-	4,782,646.47
State and county assessments	705,727.00	-	-	-	-	-	705,727.00
Capital outlay	507,676.12	-	-	299,439.43	-	-	807,115.55
	59,081,021.05	6,611,025.97	3,491,028.30	3,336,195.97	242,592.36	-	72,761,863.65
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(1,502,155.35)	2,070,040.34	(2,627,888.30)	298,774.57	(35,042.97)	-	(1,796,271.71)
Other financing sources (uses):							
Proceeds from long-term borrowing						-	-
Transfers between funds	587,381.29	(514,535.27)	357,570.98	(574,903.00)	144,486.00		-
	587,381.29	(514,535.27)	357,570.98	(574,903.00)	144,486.00	-	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other uses	(914,774.06)	1,555,505.07	(2,270,317.32)	(276,128.43)	109,443.03	-	(1,796,271.71)
Beginning fund equity	3,916,015.02	9,627,404.83	(7,606,173.32)	33,885,448.02	3,720,199.18	-	43,542,893.73
Ending fund equity	3,001,240.96	11,182,909.90	(9,876,490.64)	33,609,319.59	3,829,642.21	-	41,746,622.02

2009 REPORT OF
THE CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
FY 2010 CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Department	Class	Capital Planning Priority	Brief Description of Item	Initial Fiscal Year of Request	FY 2010 Requested	FY 2010 Recommended/ Funded [(1)]
POLICE	1	1	Replace 3 Police Cruisers - ***Committee recommends replacement of 2 cruisers***	FY 2007	72,018	48,012
Fire	1	2	Protective clothing for firefighters (37 sets)	11/1/2008	55,500	25,000
DPW-Fire St 3	2	1	Replace Roof	3/13/2001	180,000	
DPW-Parkview Sch	2	2	Replace Roof	3/13/2006	664,000	
DPW-Town Off	2	3	New High Efficiency Boiler & Controls	9/28/2005	100,000	
DPW-Moreau Hall	2	4	Replace 2 existing boilers.	3/13/2001	305,000	
DPW-Center St	2	5	Replace windows and doors w/ energy efficient ones and recarpet offices	3/13/2001	22,000	
DPW-Pol/Fire St	2	6	Recarpet police/fire station.	3/13/2001	12,000	
Town Clerk	2	7	Rebinding and deacidification of Historic records, purchase of proper storage materials	FY2010	10,000	
POLICE	2	NR	Upgrade Communications/Radios - ***Committee recommends an evaluation of the existing communications system be completed before recommending any upgrades***	FY 2007	50,000	
Data Processing	4	1	Cyclical replacement of servers, computers, routers and switches. (For the past 10 years prior to FY09, we had paid for these upgrades with money from Comcast.) (Total replacement cost of all equipment is about $280,000. This amount will allow for replacement of the oldest equipment to avoid significant downtime in any area or department.)	FY09	40,000	40,000
School Dept	4	2	School Computer Equipment	9/30/2007	70,000	70,000
DPW-Rds & Sidwlk	4	3	Reconstruct Summer Street w/ sidewalks	10/7/2008	800,000	
Fire	4	4	Fire Station # 3 - North Side Apron	10/16/2006	60,000	
School Dept	5	1	Sped Van Replacement	9/30/2005	42,000	42,000
Council on Aging	5	2	Matching funds for EOT grants to replace shuttle vans	FY 2009	12,000	
DPW-Highway	5	3	1-Ton Dump Truck w/plow - (replace 1992 Ford #5) - ***Committee recommends replacement of one vehicle***	9/15/2007	55,000	55,000
DPW-Highway	5	3	1-Ton Dump Truck w/plow - (replace 1992 Ford #7) - ***Committee recommends replacement of one vehicle***	9/15/2007	55,000	
DPW-Highway	5	4	Pickup Truck w/plow - (replace 1993 Ford #10) - ***Committee recommends replacement of one vehicle***	9/15/2007	32,000	
DPW-Highway	5	4	Pickup Truck w/plow - (replace 1995 Ford #6) - ***Committee recommends replacement of one vehicle***	9/15/2007	32,000	
DPW-Bldg & Gr	5	5	1-Ton Rack Body Truck w/plow - (replace 1989 Ford #32A)	9/15/2007	47,000	
DPW-Bldg & Gr	5	6	Tree Chipper - (replace 1989 Brush Bandit)	9/15/2007	57,000	
Ambulance	5	7	Electronic Cot for Ambulance	FY 2010	12,000	
DPW-HHR/FLO Sch	5	NR	Replace and Upgrade Phone and Phone System - ***Committee recommends investigation of leasing opportunities***	9/15/2007	60,000	
Town Clerk	5	NR	Purchase of Copy machine that is network capable and shelf feeding for electronic recording of Town Documents - ***Committee recommends investigation of leasing opportunities***	FY2010	10,000	
Inspectional Services	6	NR	Ford Ranger Pick up Truck - ***Not recommended at this time for economic reasons***	FY 2009	17,000	
Council on Aging	6	NR	Equipment & Furnishings for Senior Center - ***Not recommended at this time for economic reasons***	FY 2010	123,000	

2009 REPORT OF
THE CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
FY 2010 CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Department	Class	Capital Planning Priority	Brief Description of Item	Initial Fiscal Year of Request	FY 2010 Requested	FY 2010 Recommended/ Funded (1)
anning/ComDevelopm	6	NR	Department Vehicle - Honda Fit - ***Not recommended at this time for economic reasons***	FY 2010	14,000	
POLICE	6	NR	Replace Administrative Vehicle - ***Not recommended at this time for economic reasons***	FY 2007	24,626	
POLICE	6	NR	Purchase 2 Motorcycles - ***Not recommended at this time for economic reasons***	FY 2009	27,600	
POLICE	NC	N/A	Evaluate Communications System - ***Request does not meet capital asset definition.***	FY 2009	7,500	
DPW-Water	O		Replace vehicle #126 F-350 Van	FY 2010	37,600	37,600
DPW-Water	O		Replace vehicle #130 F-150 Pickup Truck	FY 2010	37,600	37,600
DPW-Water	O		Water Main Replacement Program	FY 2010	500,000	500,000
			Total		**$ 3,643,444**	**$ 855,212**

(1) Funded at the Annual Town Meeting on 5/18/09 adjourned to June 8, 2009 and the Special Town Meeting on 10/5/09.

1 - Imminent threat to the health and safety of citizens or property
2 - Improvement of a capital asset to facilitate maintenance of operations, not to include ordinary
3 - Requirement of state or federal law or regulation
4 - Improvement of infrastructure
5 - Improvement of productivity
6 - Alleviation of an overburdened situation

NC - No classification assigned
NR - Not recommended by Committee
O - Other Source of funding such as water surplus

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Calendar Year 2009

The Audit Committee's primary functions are as follows:

1. Make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on the selection of, and scope of services for, an independent auditor.
2. Review the annual financial statements and management reports prepared by the independent auditor and make recommendations with respect thereto.
3. Make recommendations for areas of operations where expended scope audits or review of the internal controls may be appropriate.
4. Review and make recommendations with respect to the Town's financial management practices and controls; through the Town Administrator, review with appropriate boards and departments opportunities to improve such practices and controls.
5. Report to the Board of Selectmen on the status of recommendations the Committee and/or independent auditor has made during the preceding twelve months.

To that end, our committee met twice during the year ended December 31, 2009. During the year, our Committee was comprised of 1 member of the Board of Selectmen, 1 member of the Finance Committee, 1 member of the School Committee, and 1 At-Large member. The Town's Accountant, Wendy Nightingale also attended all meetings.

The primary focus of the Audit Committee's meetings was to review the Independent Auditors' report for the year ended June 30, 2008 and the Management Comments for the same period. The Committee also kept apprised of the status of the on-going audit for the year ended June 30, 2009. As of December 31, 2009, the Committee had not received the draft of the Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2009.

The committee welcomed its newest member during 2009, as Mr. Michael Ferrara was appointed by the Finance Committee.

The current members and officers of the Town of Easton Audit Committee are as follows:

Charles P. King, Chair, Appointed by the Board of Selectmen
Jane Martin, Vice Chair, Appointed by the School Committee
Brenda DeCosta, Secretary, Member At-Large
Michael Ferrara, Appointed by the Finance Committee
Michael Sullivan, Member At-Large

Respectfully submitted,

Charles P. King, CPA

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT

The Annual Audit of the books and accounts of the Town of Easton for the Fiscal year ending June 20, 200 was made by Melanson Heath and company, PC, Certified public Accountants. A copy of the report is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Jeremy P Gillis, Town Clerk

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Public Works hosted several public events in 2009:

- On Saturday April 25th, 566 Easton residents participated in our annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day.
- Several Hundred residents participated in the third Annual Community Pride roadside cleanup on Saturday April 25th and Sunday April 26th.
- The Town was honored for the 21st consecutive year as Tree City USA and celebrated Arbor Day on May 1st with a Tree Planting dedicated to the former Tree Warden Francis Lordan, who served from 1950-1955.
- The DPW Water Division hosted its 25th annual Open House and Poster Contest for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students on Saturday May 2nd.
- The Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee held its 22nd annual Awareness Day on Saturday May 10th at the Bass Pro Shop in Foxborough.
- The DPW celebrated its 2nd annual Geographic Information System (GIS) Day on November 18th with an exhibit at the Town Office.

The DPW assisted with the set up of the Special Town Meeting at the high school on November 17th.

DPW personnel participated in a preliminary planning session of extending sewerage service from Mansfield to the Five Corners area of Easton.

DPW managers attended a regional managers' drug and alcohol testing seminar.

The DPW attended a Conservation Commission meeting regarding the Public Works Economic Development (PWED) project on Foundry Street.

The DPW made a presentation to the Capital Budget Committee regarding the FY 2010 Capital Budget.

On January 27th the DPW conducted a public hearing on the PWED grant application for improvements to Foundry Street.

The FY 2010 Operational Budgets were presented to the Town Administrator, Selectmen and Finance Committee.

DPW personnel participated in Smart Growth Workshop on Monday February 23rd.

Personnel participated in The Upper Taunton River Regional Wastewater Evaluation Project at Bridgewater State College on March 12th.

The Traffic Safety Committee gave a report on Williams Street sign placement to the Board of Selectmen.

The DPW hosted a Massachusetts Environmental Protection Agency (MEPA) hearing on March 24th regarding the Foundry Street PWED project.

DPW personnel participated in a Statewide Contracts Operational Services Training Seminar on March 31st.

The DPW assisted with the polling location setup for the Town Election on April 28th.

The DPW participated in the H1N1 Flu Emergency preparedness planning sessions with the Town Administrator.

Presentations were given to the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee regarding Town Meeting warrant articles.

The DPW assisted with the Southeastern Regional Services Group annual bid opening for municipal supplies.

The DPW assisted with the set up of the annual Employee Benefits Fair.

The DPW set up Frothingham Park for the high school graduation on Sunday, June 7th.

The DPW assisted in the preparation of the annual Town Meeting on May 18th and June 8th.

On July 25th the DPW Water Division received the 2009 Public Water System Award from Mass DEP for outstanding Performance and Achievement in 2008.

On July 13th and 14th the DPW participated in three Road Safety Audits with Mass Highway and the Old Colony Planning Council regarding the need for traffic signals at the intersections of Prospect and Foundry Streets, Elm and Washington Streets, and Union and Washington Streets.

The DPW conducted a walk-through meeting of the Aquaria Project along Turnpike St. on July 28th to develop a punch list of work remaining to be finished by the contractor.

Completed paving of the King Arthur Road project.

Completed the painting of roadway center lines and fog lines. All crosswalks and stop lines have been repainted prior to the schools opening in August 2009.

Attended the Conservation Commission meeting on Monday August 24th regarding a public hearing for the DPW to repair the spillway at New Pond Dam on Foundry Street.

Reviewed Engineering Proposals from firms seeking to provide Professional Services to the Town of Easton for wastewater consultation.

Worked with Beta Engineers and the Mass Rides Safe Routes to School Consultants regarding improvements to the pedestrian and traffic flow around the school complex and Lothrop Street to Columbus Ave.

Assisted the Town Administrator with the architects' preliminary walkthrough at Frothingham Hall with fifty firms represented on August 31st.

Cold planing and paving of Sheridan Street from Columbus to Day Street including Day Street to Lincoln Street was completed in September.

The DPW presented articles for Capital Improvements for the Water Division and accepted a $350,000.00 grant for photovoltaic cells in preparation of the Special Town Meeting.

Completed the repair of the cement spillway at the New Pond Dam.

Presentations were given to the Finance Committee for the DPW budget in preparation for the Special Town Meeting on October 5th.

Assisted with the set up and preparation for the Special Town Meeting on October 5th.

Completed sidewalk repairs on Lothrop Street and Jenny Lind Street.

Established a new handicap accessible sidewalk crossing at the Ames Free Library on Main Street.

Completed sidewalk rehabilitation on Center Street from Short Street to Lantern Lane.

Conducted a workshop with town officials and representatives of Bay State Gas and National Grid regarding the recent energy audits at all town facilities.

Submitted the DPW FY2011 Capital Budget to the Town Administrator.

Facilitated the reopening of Lothrop Street in the school complex to two way traffic.

Attended the Conservation Commission meeting on October 19th to request them to grant a temporary easement on a portion of property along Foundry Street under their control to facilitate the improvements at the Five Corners Intersection.

Participated in the Board of Health Call Down emergency exercise.

Conducted the annual Snow Plow Training assembly for all DPW employees.

Reviewed architectural submissions with the Frothingham Hall Steering Committee for the design of the new Community Center.

Conducted monthly inspections of the landfill.

Participated in a meeting with Mass Highway District #5 regarding future highway improvement projects in Easton.

The DPW assisted with the town's insurance company's safety inspections at all town buildings.

Set up for Special Election on December 8th .

First major snowstorm on December 20th -15".

DPW Staff attended Old Colony Planning Council/ Mass Highway Safety Road Audit on December 21st for the intersection at the Five Corners and the intersection of Foundry Street and Turnpike Street.

The DPW inspected the retrofitting of energy saving light fixtures at the Town Office, Frothingham Hall, Fire Station #1 on Lothrop Street and Fire Station #2 on Bay Road, Center School, DPW at 130 Center Street and 417 Bay Road.

I would like to thank James Luke, Highway Foreman for his 33 years of dedicated service to the Town of Easton and wish him well in retirement.

I would like to praise the entire staff at the Department of Public Works for their dedication to the community throughout the year.

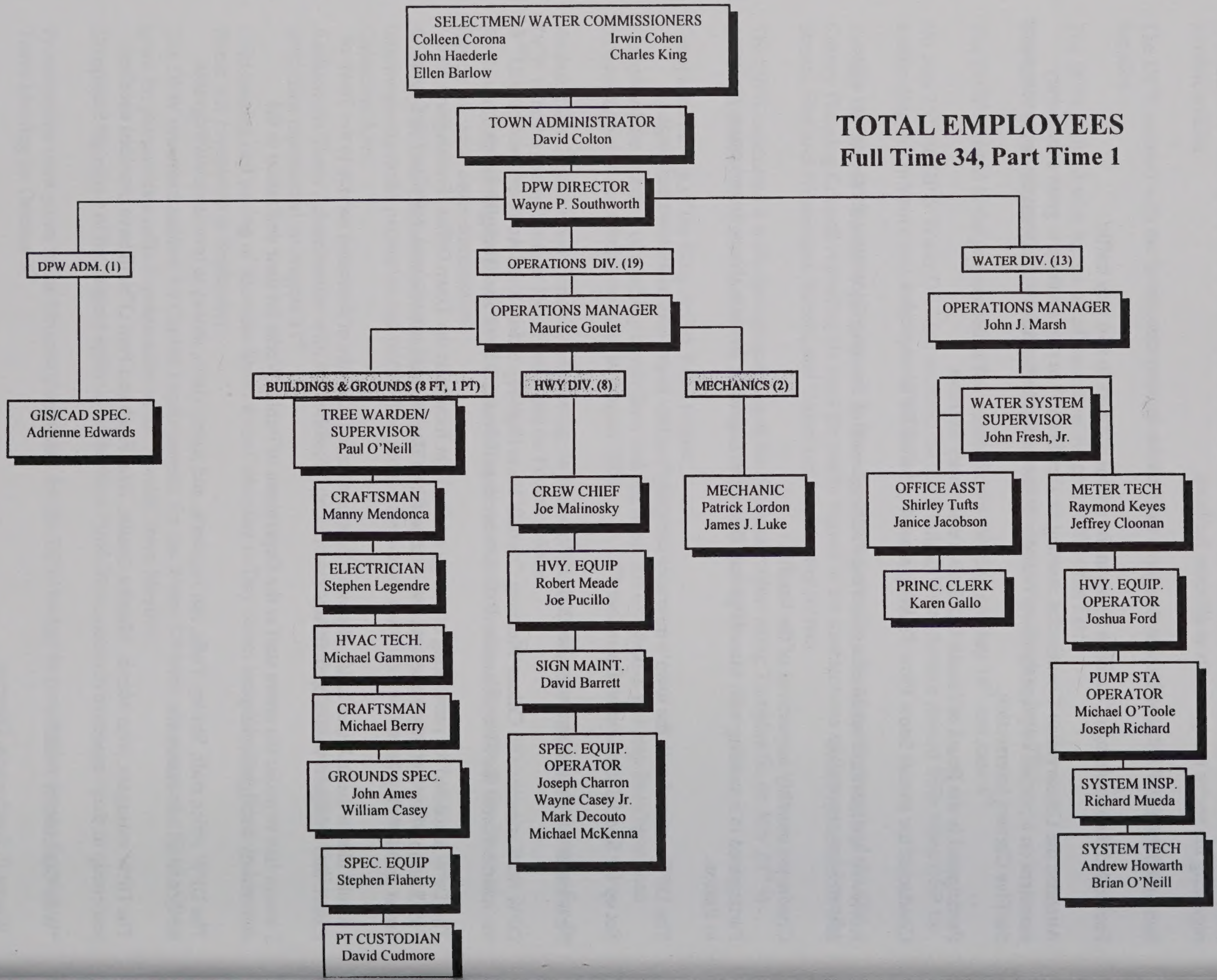
The DPW office staff, Shirley Tufts, Jan Jacobson, and Karen Gallo, strives to provide knowledgeable service to all our customers.

The DPW managers, John Marsh, Maurice Goulet, John Fresh and Paul O'Neill have provided excellent leadership to their respective divisions.

"With Community Pride"

Wayne P. Southworth, Director

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - FY 10


SELECTMEN/ WATER COMMISSIONERS
Colleen Corona
John Haederle
Ellen Barlow
Irwin Cohen
Charles King
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
David Colton
DPW DIRECTOR
Wayne P. Southworth
DPW ADM. (1)
GIS/CAD SPEC.
Adrienne Edwards
OPERATIONS DIV. (19)
OPERATIONS MANAGER
Maurice Goulet
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS (8 FT, 1 PT)
TREE WARDEN/
SUPERVISOR
Paul O'Neill
CRAFTSMAN
Manny Mendonca
ELECTRICIAN
Stephen Legendre
HVAC TECH.
Michael Gammons
CRAFTSMAN
Michael Berry
GROUNDS SPEC.
John Ames
William Casey
SPEC. EQUIP
Stephen Flaherty
PT CUSTODIAN
David Cudmore
HWY DIV. (8)
CREW CHIEF
Joe Malinosky
HVY. EQUIP
Robert Meade
Joe Pucillo
SIGN MAINT.
David Barrett
SPEC. EQUIP.
OPERATOR
Joseph Charron
Wayne Casey Jr.
Mark Decouto
Michael McKenna
MECHANICS (2)
MECHANIC
Patrick Lordon
James J. Luke
WATER DIV. (13)
OPERATIONS MANAGER
John J. Marsh
WATER SYSTEM
SUPERVISOR
John Fresh, Jr.
OFFICE ASST
Shirley Tufts
Janice Jacobson
PRINC. CLERK
Karen Gallo
METER TECH
Raymond Keyes
Jeffrey Cloonan
HVY. EQUIP.
OPERATOR
Joshua Ford
PUMP STA
OPERATOR
Michael O'Toole
Joseph Richard
SYSTEM INSP.
Richard Mueda
SYSTEM TECH
Andrew Howarth
Brian O'Neill

TOTAL EMPLOYEES

Full Time 34, Part Time 1

DPW Operations Division

DPW Operations: Over this past summer, James Luke, Highway Foreman/Supervisor of the Department of Public Works, retired from his position after 32 years of service to the Town of Easton. He will be truly missed by all of the employees of the town as well as the residents of the community for his tireless efforts and dedication.

Highway Department: This past year the Highway Department has implemented changes in their de-icing procedures. A new 3,000 gallon polyethylene tank was installed to store a magnesium chloride base chemical that is used in conjunction with the road salt for greater de-icing capabilities to the roadways. Depending on the different types of storms, pre-treatment of the roadways with salt and this environmentally friendly chemical, has proven to be a helpful method for safer commuter travel. This department is responsible for changing the line painted crosswalks with bright yellow paint and hatched lines to make them more visible to vehicles, making it safer for pedestrian traffic. Many roadway repairs have been accomplished utilizing a hot mix asphalt utility trailer and taking advantage of infra-red techniques. Drainage improvements to Summer and Prospect Streets have been completed with an array of maintenance projects such as pothole patching, roadside flail mowing, streetsweeping, catchbasin cleaning, snowplowing, sanding, sign installations and replacements, town-wide fleet vehicle maintenance, berm installation, and gravel filling.

Building and Grounds Department: With the purchase of the Frothingham Hall, the Building and Grounds Department has been diligently working to prepare this building for use by the Recreation and Council on Aging. There have been ongoing improvements at the Town Offices, schools, fire and police, DPW as well as other municipal buildings. These improvements include installations of infra-red heaters and sensors, lighting change-outs and new controls. This department handles many of the maintenance tasks of the school and town buildings such as electrical, HVAC, craftsman projects that include minor construction and the fields and cemetery upkeep. Tree work still seems to dominate the time of the Building and Grounds staff. Over 750 trees have been either taken down or trimmed over the past year and there is still so much more to accomplish. Some of the other responsibilities of the department include voting set-ups, field lining for sporting events, clean-ups, stump grinding, graduation set-ups and coordination, and chipping and brush cutting.

Trash Program: Easton's recycling percentage is over 25% and will hopefully keep growing in the coming years. The program's vendor, Waste Management, has changed to a 5-day pickup cycle for calendar year 2010. In this revised schedule for solid waste and recyclable pickup, some residents have experienced changes to their regularly scheduled day. Hopefully this transition will be minimal. A special thanks is given to Jan Jacobson for her continued hard work adding to the success of this program.

This Division's utmost appreciation is extended to Paul O'Neill (Building and Grounds Supervisor/Tree Warden) and Joe Malinosky (Highway Crew Chief) and each one of our Division employees whom continue to demonstrate a high level of professionalism and a tremendous amount of support and dedication to the DPW and the community:

John Ames, Dave Barrett, Mike Berry, Bill Casey, Wayne Casey, Joe Charron, Dave Cudmore, Mark DeCouto, Steve Flaherty, Mike Gammons, Steve Legendre, Patrick Lordan, Jim Luke, Mike McKenna, Bob Meade, Manny Mendonca, Joe Pucillo

The DPW Operations Division would also like to thank the Water Division under the leadership of Jack Marsh (Operations Manager) and John Fresh (Water System Supervisor) and their staff, for their continued support as well as the administrative personnel; Shirley Tufts, Jan Jacobson and Karen Gallo. This Division also recognizes the efforts of Adrienne Edwards (GIS Specialist) for her mapping and computer skills that have become very beneficial to the needs of this Division.

This coming year may present us with new challenges and obstacles in which we are prepared to take on and handle with professionalism and compassion for the betterment of the community and its residents.

Maurice G. Goulet
DPW Operations Manager
mgoulet@easton.ma.us

DPW OPERATIONS DIVISION

Projects of 2009

HIGHWAY

Roadway Paving:		Feet	Miles
Foundry Street Rte. 123 (Reclaim / Binder Course)		8,800	1.67
King Arthur Road (Top Course Resurfacing)		2,650	0.50
Sheridan Street (Cold Plane / Resurface)		2,200	0.42
	Total	**13,650**	**2.59**

Sidewalk Reconstruction:		Feet	Miles
Center Street (Bituminous Concrete)		800	0.15
	Total	**800**	**0.15**

Drainage Basins Cleaned:	**Total**	**396**
Drainage Basins Newly Constructed:	**Total**	**6**
Drainage Basins Remodeled:	**Total**	**40**

Berm Installation:		Feet	Miles
Various Locations Town-wide	**Total**	**3,800**	**0.72**

Traffic Marking: (Linepainting)		Feet	Miles
Various Locations Town-wide	**Total**	**298,163**	**56.47**

Linepainting Crosswalks:		Each
Various Locations Town-wide	**Total**	97

Crack-Sealing Roadways:		Feet	Miles
Prospect Street		14,152	2.68
Rockland Street		10,107	1.91
Mill Street		4,514	0.85
	Total	**28,773**	**5.45**

Roadway Repair:	Tons

Various Locations Town-wide	**Total**	**247**
Pothole Patching:		Tons
Various Locations Town-wide	**Total**	**110**
Fleet Maintenance:		Vehicles
Various Town Departments	**Total**	**115**
Street Sweeping:	**From 3/20/09 to 6/10/09**	
Town-wide		
Flail Mowing:	**From 6/15/09 to 10/13/09**	
Town-wide		
Sanding Operations:		Events
Town-wide	**Total**	**22**
Snowplowing Operations:		Events
Town-wide	**Total**	**9**

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Tree Removal/Trimmed		Each
Town-wide	**Total**	**774**
Stump Removal		Each
Town-wide	**Total**	**51**
Cemetery Maintenance		Each
Town-wide	**Total**	**29**
Field Maintenance		Each
Town-wide	**Total**	**22**
Playground Maintenance		Each
Town-wide	**Total**	**8**
Field Lining for Sporting Events		Each
Town-wide	**Total**	**26**
Christmas Tree Disposal		Each
Town-wide	Total	**405**

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE TOWN OF EASTON WATER DIVISION

MISSION STATEMENT
The Easton Water Division is dedicated to providing, protecting and preserving today's water supplies for tomorrow's consumers. Our commitment is to supply quality water that complies with all State & Federal standards, provide education and excellent customer service, and to be the leaders of our profession.

I respectfully submit the following report and pumping record for the year 2009.

Month	Gallons	Month	Gallons
January	46,348,000	July	56,038,000
February	41,002,000	August	69,031,000
March	47,506,000	September	61,882,000
April	53,244,000	October	47,550,000
May	60,020,000	November	43,455,000
June	59,127,000	December	43,938,000
		Total Pumped	629,141,000

The greatest amount pumped in one day was 2,758,000 gallons on August 17, 2009.

The Water Division responded to 2,960 service and emergency calls:
Connected 26 new services for a total of 7,285 active services
Replaced 787 meters
Renewed 42 services
Repaired 9 service leaks
Repaired 14 broken water mains
2 – 6" main, 11 – 8" mains, 1 – 12" main
Thawed 18 frozen services
Repaired 10 fire hydrants
Replace 3 fire hydrants
Preformed routine maintenance on 770 hydrants

In 2009, new subdivisions and water main improvements added to our system:
90' of 4" water main
600' of 6" water main
1,190' of 8" water main
10 new fire hydrants
19 new valves

We now have a total of 161 miles of water mains, 1,359 hydrants and 3,186 street valves in our system.

The Water Division read 85,349 meters during the past year. All reading data is analyzed to help meet state regulations and also used as a tool to help notify customers of potential leaks within their plumbing systems. We processed 29,052 routine water bills, 179 property transfer bills and 327 miscellaneous bills.

This completed the twentieth (21) year of our Backflow Prevention Program. Since 1989, we have conducted 809 surveys of facilities to ensure appropriate backflow prevention devices. This year 117 commercial buildings, 51 institutional buildings and 17 municipal buildings were surveyed. We have 293 testable devices in the system, 168 double check valve assemblies, 125 reduced pressure zone backflow preventers and 14 non-required devices. This year 389 backflow prevention device tests were performed.

In order to meet the requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, we have taken the following samples for analysis:

605	Bacteriological
7	Nitrate
2	Nitrite
3	Routine chemical
34	Secondary contaminants
2	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)
2,922+/-	pH
2,556+/-	Chlorine residual
20	Trihalomethane
24	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)
1	Perchlorate
21	Iron
21	Manganese
17	Tannic Acid
1	Inorganic (IOC)
4	Radium 226 & 228
8	Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule Samples (UCMR)
21	Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC)
20	Total Organic Carbon (TOC)
21	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection completed its review of the Town of Easton's Water Management permit to withdraw water from the Taunton River Basin. This review and findings modified our existing permit to include performance standards of 65 gallons per day or less for residential per capita water use and 10% or less for unaccounted for water. As part of the standard we now are required to have mandatory water restrictions in place each year from May 1st to November 1st. The severities of the restrictions are base on how we do as a community with meeting these performance standards. Currently the Water Division performs many programs to lessen unaccounted for water as well as notifying our customers of potential leaks within their plumbing system. It is important that consumers help by practicing good water conservation and repair any leaks within the plumbing system as soon as they become aware of them.

In 2008, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection coordinated a targeted pilot project involving a total of 14 municipal wastewater treatment plants and drinking water treatment facilities through energy auditing, assessments for renewable & clean energy possibilities and support for implementation of energy-related projects. As part of this project, we were approved for financing through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program for the installation of a 50 kW Solar Photovoltaic Project to be installed at Pumping Station #2. The DWSRF is a joint federal-state financing program that provides subsidized interest loans to water suppliers for their system infrastructure. However, due to the availability of federal stimulus funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), this appropriation will be reduced as principal forgiveness. Currently design has begun and the project is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2010.

We continue to survey the water system for leaks using conventional and digital correlation technology. We have completed 27 system-wide leak surveys since 1982. This program enables us to maintain low unaccounted-for water.

Water system flushing is a crucial element of maintaining our water system. We completed our 16th consecutive annual system-wide unidirectional (UDF) flushing program during the month of April. Unidirectional flushing is a technique that removes mineral and biological deposits in water lines by moving water through the mains at high velocity in a single direction. This program is our most effective tool in maintaining water quality and delivery of safe water to your tap.

The Water Division continues the system improvements along Sheridan Street and Day Street (Sheridan Street to Lincoln Street). This project consists of renewing the water services by removing them from the water mains that were installed in the late 1800's to the newer 12" ductile iron water main that was installed in 1978. This past year we renewed 42 services for a total of 82 renewals. With this work completed to date we have been able to take 2,145 feet of the older water main out of service.

The meeting room at the Easton Water Division office at 417 Bay Road continues to be in high demand, as one of the only town meeting rooms.

We conducted our Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on April 25, 2009 with 566 residents participating at a cost of $13,459.94 to the Town. I would like to thank the Easton Lions Club for their continued effort in assisting in this event with the collection of televisions, computer monitors, and white goods. Our collection day for 2010 has been scheduled for April 24th.

The Water Division hosted its 25th Annual Open House on Saturday, May 2, 2009 with the highlight being the Award Ceremony of our Annual Water Conservation Poster Contest. Hundreds of posters are judged from the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. This contest could not be possible without the excellent cooperation of the Easton School System—especially, Dr. William Simmons, School Superintendent, Dr. Michael A. Green, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, Christine DiVirgilio, Achim Krasenbrink, Susan Masse, Kathie Hayes, and Betty Minuskin of the Art Department. This contest provides a perfect medium to educate the students to the value of water and the need to protect it. We look forward to our 26th Open House being held on May 1, 2010.

We assisted the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee in its efforts throughout the year. We attended 10 of their 11 scheduled meetings. We also attended their annual awareness day held at the Bass Pro Shops, on May 9, 2009.

The Water Division continues to remain leaders within the water works industry. Our employees are dedicated and committed to their jobs. As a manager, it is certainly rewarding to have employees of this caliber and I would like to personally thank all of them for their continued efforts: Shirley Tufts, Janice Jacobson, Karen Gallo, John Fresh, Jr., Raymond Keyes, Richard Mueda, Joshua Ford, Joseph Richard, Michael O'Toole, Jeffery Cloonan, Brian O'Neill, Scott Swale and Andy Howarth.

"With Water Works Pride"
John J. Marsh
508-230-0850
jmarsh@easton.ma.us

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee held eleven meetings during the year. The meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month and are rotated within one of the five communities of Easton, Sharon, Foxborough, Mansfield and Norton.

Karen Gallo has done a great job reducing our mailing list by using e-mail to distribute our agendas and meeting minutes to over 100 recipients, saving both time and money.

Adrienne Edwards, GIS Specialist from Easton, assisted the committee with the redesign of our new brochure and the Town of Foxborough Water Department generously paid for the printing cost.

Beth Suedmeyer, Inland Coordinator of the ACEC Program at the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation attended our meeting on April 2nd to update the committee on the ACEC Program throughout the state and to thank our committee for all its hard work and diligence in our efforts to protect the Canoe River Aquifer.

Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Alves from the Mansfield Engineering Department gave our committee a presentation of the Mill Street campground dam repair project along the Canoe River and requested our committee's support of the project.

The committee held its 22nd annual Awareness Day at the Bass Pro Shop in Foxborough on Saturday, May 9th from 10:00 am through 12 Noon.

Jenn Carlino worked with an Easton resident that had attended our meeting and is concerned about the damage caused by ATV'S in the watershed between Easton and Norton.

David DeLorenzo from Mass DEP met with the committee on August 6th and discussed the state's Revolving Fund Program and the need for regional Sewer Projects within the Aquifer.

Adrienne Edwards presented the committee with a GPS tour of the Canoe River on a large overhead screen with overlays of protected open space.

The committee was saddened by the death of Suzanne Erickson of Norton who had been a very active member of our committee for many years.

The committee would like to thank Adrienne Edwards for her design of the new brochure and her willingness to take over the maintenance of our web site. The committee also wishes to thank Karen Gallo of the Town of Easton Water Division, Antonetta Ackerman of the Town of Sharon Water Department, and Eileen Zinni of the Town of Foxborough Water Department for their dedication and assistance in producing our minutes and mailings.

NOTICE

THE CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE WILL MEET THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1:00 PM IN ONE OF THE TOWNS OF EASTON, MANSFIELD, NORTON, FOXBOROUGH, OR SHARON.

THE FOLLOWING **2010** SCHEDULE IS AS PLANNED:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7. 2010	NORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010	MANSFIELD TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2010	EASTON WATER DIVISION
THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010	SHARON COMMUNITY CENTER
THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2010	FOXBOROUGH PUBLIC SAFETY BLDG
THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2010	NORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2010	MANSFIELD TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2010	EASTON WATER DIVISION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2010	SHARON COMMUNITY CENTER
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2010	FOXBOROUGH PUBLIC SAFETY BLDG
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2010	NORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Present Membership

Norton
Susan Mims (6/30/11)
Jennifer Carlino (6/30/12)

Foxborough
Robert W. Boette (6/30)
Joan F. Sozio (6/30/11)

Sharon
Gregory Meister (6/30/10)
Dave Masciarelli (6/30/10)

Leo Potter (6/30/10)

Easton
John H. Fresh, Jr. (06/30/10)
Wayne P. Southworth (06/30/09)
Janice L. Fowler (6/30/11)

Mansfield
Edward Tartufo (6/30/11)
Leonard F. Flynn (6/30/12)
Kevin O'Donnell (6/30/10)

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

I respectfully submit the annual report of the Easton Fire & Rescue Department for the year 2009.

OPERATIONS

2009 was another busy year for the Easton Fire Department. The department responded to a total of 3097 incidents in 2009. A total of 6196 pieces of apparatus were utilized to handle those incidents. The department responded to 63 fires in structures, 31 brush fires, 4 vehicle fires, and 57 other types of fires. The department also responded to 1467 medical emergencies and 399 automobile accidents. A total of 1331 patients were transported to local hospitals. The remainder of the responses can be categorized as either investigations of potentially hazardous situations or public service calls.

New firefighter / paramedics Christopher Dyer and Christopher Hebb were appointed to the department to fill existing vacancies. They completed an orientation / training period with the department and on January 5, 2009, they begin a twelve-week intensive recruit training program at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. New Firefighter/Paramedic Jeffrey Keach was appointed to the department on March 8, 2009 and completed fire academy training on June 19, 2009.

I must emphasize that we are still considerably under-staffed for a department that is required to cover 29.4 square miles and protect over 23,000 residents. At the annual town meeting in June, three (3) firefighter positions were eliminated due to budget cuts. Firefighter Christopher Dyer was able to obtain a lateral transfer to the Stoughton Fire Department and Firefighters Christopher Hebb and Jeffrey Keach were laid-off. The total compliment of funded fire department positions as of July 1, 2009 is equal to the same number of funded positions the department had in 1987. However the town's population and the number of emergency calls we respond to each year has increased tremendously during the same time frame. It remains increasingly difficult to handle the escalating demands for service with the very limited on-duty staffing. The incidence of multiple emergency calls taking place simultaneously increases each year as the town continues to grow. Citizens are being forced to wait for dangerously long periods of time for the arrival of emergency vehicles because the on-duty personnel are committed to other calls. Similar conditions exist in our surrounding communities as well. This is creating greater delays in the availability of mutual aid resources.

With insufficient staffing, the safety of the personnel responding to the needs of the community is jeopardized. As mentioned above, with increasing frequency there are times when all available on-duty personnel are committed to one call leaving no one available to respond to the next incident.

To emphasize how critical the situation has become, in 2009, Easton Fire Department apparatus (fire trucks and ambulances) responded on mutual aid to assist all our surrounding communities 93 times (62 Ambulance calls & 31 Fire calls). Yet we had to call apparatus in from other communities 197 times to assist us (180 Ambulance calls & 17 Fire calls). There were 1331 patients transported to area hospitals in 2009. 171 of those patients were transported by out of town ambulances. Not only were there delays in providing emergency services while waiting for the mutual aid ambulances to arrive, but there was also a loss of revenue to the Town of Easton (the transporting ambulance bills for services). From the chart below, you can see that each year we are relying too heavily on our neighboring communities to provide the services we cannot provide with current staffing levels.

Patients transported by mutual aid ambulances

1997 = 62 or 6.9%
1998 = 68 or 7.7%
1999 = 80 or 9.4%
2000 = 116 or 10.3%

2001 = 103 or 10.2%
2002 = 125 or 12.7%
2003 = 137 or 14%
2004 = 147 or 14%
2005 = 172 or 15%
2006 = 166 or 14%
2007 = 146 or 12%
2008 = 191 or 14%
2009 = 171 or 13%

Mutual aid is a concept that has been utilized by the fire service for over a century. It is a system designed to help every city and town deal with those **unusual incidents** that a community cannot handle on their own. After the events of September 11, 2001 local fire and police departments are expected to be the "first line of defense" against terrorist activities and events involving weapons of mass destruction. However with current staffing levels, we must rely on mutual aid just to handle the day-to-day routine calls. With all neighboring cities and towns experiencing financial difficulties, mutual aid may not be as reliable as it has been in the past. This will further reduce our ability to provide the emergency services expected and demanded by the citizens of Easton.

As everyone is aware, a severe financial crisis is impacting government on all levels. The availability of federal and state grants is decreasing making it more difficult to obtain funding for needed firefighting equipment and fire safety programs. This year, we were fortunate to receive a Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) grant in the amount of $4,900.00. The fire equipment grant program previously used to purchase costly rescue equipment has not been funded in the state budget for the past two (2) years.

The department continues to seek alternative funding sources. In 2009 the department applied for three (3) federal grants. We have applied for funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act as well as the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant Program in an effort to fund the positions lost as a result of budget cuts made in June. We have also submitted an application to the federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program seeking funds to replace protective firefighting clothing for all members of the department.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Firefighting and emergency medical training are vital to ensuring that the Easton Fire Department is able to respond effectively and efficiently to the many calls for assistance that we receive. Most of the training is conducted "in-service" while the personnel are on duty, but many members take advantage of training and educational opportunities on their own "off-duty" time. Captain James Walsh is the department's training officer and coordinates the training activities. We frequently work directly with the instructors and training staff of the Department of Fire Services Massachusetts Firefighting Academy as well as training instructors from surrounding communities. This ensures that firefighting practices and procedures keep pace with new advances in technology and tactics. In the past three (3) years, the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy has sponsored a monthly "Senior Fire Officer Forum". This training format has brought nationally recognized speakers to the Commonwealth to instruct members of the fire service.

On an annual basis all EMTs, from the basic level to the paramedic level, are required to complete many hours of continuing education in order to improve their ability to deliver high quality medical care. Our EMS Training Coordinator FF / Paramedic Brendan McCarthy and Advanced Life Support coordinator Lieutenant / Paramedic Evan Malone conduct most of the medical training for department members along with offering CPR and first-aid training to various groups in the community. Doctor Henry Crowley has been contracted to be our ambulance service medical director and is committed to providing oversight over the entire medical delivery system. He has been conducting training sessions for all of our medical personnel and responds to emergencies when available to offer expertise and "hands-on" assistance.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND FIRE PREVENTION

The most important function of any Fire Department is to prevent the occurrence of situations that produce injury, death, destruction of property, or negatively impact our environment. We try to accomplish this through our Public Education and Fire Prevention division.

The S.A.F.E. (Student Awareness of Fire Education) Program is now in its 15th year. This program is a cooperative effort between firefighters, school principals, teachers, and students. The program was originally developed and continues to be funded through a state grant. I am proud to say that our Legislators (Senators Brian Joyce and Thomas Kennedy as well as Representatives David Flynn, Geraldine Creedon, & Christine Canavan) all voted in favor of funding this program recognizing its importance even in a time of fiscal constraint. We are fortunate to have legislators that always support public safety programs. Through the determined efforts of Captain Dave Beals, FF Larry Blye and FF Chris Mills the Easton Fire Department S.A.F.E. program has been a huge success and continues to grow even when funding is shrinking.

The demands on the Fire Prevention office are continuing to increase. Hundreds of residential, commercial, and industrial inspections were completed during the year. Recent changes in fire and building codes have created a need for more detailed inspections and oversight of proposed building projects.

FIRE ALARM

Captain James Walsh performed repairs and maintenance procedures to the municipal fire alarm system throughout the year. Several new radio activated fire alarm boxes were installed. Master alarm boxes activated by a building's internal fire alarm system were installed at the following locations; Stonehill College Science Center, Stonehill College McPhaidin Library, Stonehill College Villa Theresa Dormitory, and the Ames Free Library.

APPARATUS AND STATIONS

At this time, I am pleased to report that our fire apparatus is currently in good condition.

Engine # 1 is our only backup pumper. Built in 1992, it is approaching the twenty (20) year old mark. The exterior of the vehicle was refurbished in 2004 which has extended its use. However the engine, transmission, and pump are showing signs of wear and tear. Approximately $5,000 was spent on engine work in October in order to pass the annual emissions inspection. This vehicle will have to be replaced in the near future.

Engine # 2was purchased in 1999and is still running as a front line pumper. This vehicle should be refurbished or placed in reserve in the near future.

Our second ambulance is a 2004 model. It currently has 96,000 miles on it and is showing signs of wear and tear. With the annual increase in the number of medical calls, the 2004 ambulance should be replaced as soon as possible.

Fire Station # 2 on Depot Street, our oldest station, is in need of repairs or replacement. This station was built in 1934 under a Federal WPA project. As a result of town meeting vote, a new "overlay district" was created in the Washington and Belmont Street area. This will allow for the construction of the proposed "Queset Commons". One of the projects mitigation criteria is for the developer to make extensive repairs to the Depot Street Fire Station.

PERSONNEL

The members of the Easton Fire & Rescue Department continue to donate many hours of their own time in order to ensure that the department responds effectively to the needs of the community. They responded in a very efficient and professional manner throughout the year. I would like to thank all of them for their commitment to this effort.

Mission Statement:

> "The Easton Fire & Rescue Department is committed to protecting the people, property, and environment within our community. We will be responsive to the needs of our citizens by providing rapid, professional, humanitarian services essential to the health, safety, and well being of the community. We will accomplish our mission through fire prevention, fire safety awareness education, fire suppression, emergency medical services, and other related emergency and non-emergency activities. We will actively participate in our community, serve as role models, and strive to effectively and efficiently utilize all of the necessary resources at our command to provide a product deemed excellent by our citizens. ALWAYS READY, PROUD TO SERVE".

TO REPORT A FIRE OR ANY EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

For other Fire Department business or assistance, dial 508-230-3311

Additional phone numbers;

Fire Chief's Office 508-230-0750
Fire Prevention Office 508-230-0750
Fax Number 508-238-2891

CONCLUSION

On a personal note, I would like to thank all the officers, firefighters, and the department's administrative secretary (Pam Berglund) as well as the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, all the Department heads and members of the various Town boards and committees for their assistance over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. Stone, Fire Chief

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

I respectfully submit the Annual Town Report of the Easton Police Department:

The Easton Police Department has seen several significant changes this year. First, Chief Thomas F. Kominsky retired on June 29, 2009. Tom served as an Easton Police Officer for over 29 years and held the ranks of sergeant, lieutenant and served his final six years as Chief. He served his community with compassion and professionalism and will be missed by his co-workers. We are all grateful for his service and wish him well in his retirement.

This year will be remembered for our country's economic collapse. This impacted our department by requiring us to lay off two police officers. Officer Timothy McPeck and Officer Jared Nevens both lost their jobs due to a reduction in force on July 1, 2009. Officer McPeck eventually went to work for another police department and Officer Nevens was rehired by this department on November 10. Other layoffs were prevented due to the hard work of our Town Administrator and his negotiations with the police union. The Union also deserves praise for their cooperation during this very difficult time. We presently have thirty-three fulltime police officers including the chief.

We have two officers who are serving on active duty in the military. Officer Anthony DiCarlo is serving with the US Coast Guard and Officer Andrew Salisbury is serving with the US Marines. It is anticipated that they will return in the spring of 2010.

Our department has received numerous grants this year which has helped to purchase needed equipment and to provide training to the officers and to our dispatchers. Because of a grant received from the State 911 Board we were able to upgrade our radio console with a $41,000 equipment grant. We will also be changing radio frequencies and upgrading our entire radio infrastructure thanks to a regional homeland security grant which is worth approximately $250,000. The purpose of the grant was to allow other police departments in Bristol County to be able to communicate with each other during emergencies. We have a $7,000 training grant to allow our dispatchers to attend specialized training courses and a $6,000 grant for traffic safety and a $20,000 grant for the purchase of replacement bullet proof vests for the officers. Unfortunately, because of the State's fiscal crises, we will not be receiving the approximately $40,000 Community Policing Grant that we have received annually for about the past fifteen years.

Traffic safety has been a priority for our department. We conducted our first crosswalk safety enforcement program using an officer in plainclothes who attempted to cross a street in a crosswalk. Motorists who failed to yield were stopped by a marked cruiser and given educational material regarding pedestrian safety. We also had directed patrols targeting speeders, impaired drivers and violations of the seat belt law which was called the "Click it or Ticket" campaign.

We have two school resource officers. Officer Carolyn Gurney continues to work at the Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School and Officer George Allen works at the Oliver Ames High School. They both provide a tremendous resource to the schools as they are able to intervene with students who may be in need of help and also provide a measure of security at the schools. Their work is appreciated by our department and by the schools.

We have purchased two new cruisers and a motorcycle this year. The motorcycle was purchased with grant money. We also have a new electronic speed monitoring sign that is smaller and easier to transport than our previous one. This was also purchased with grant money. Our safety officer, Darren Mangott, has been moving this small sign to different locations in town based on complaints about speeding.

Officer Mangott is also a certified technician for installing child passenger safety restraints. He helps citizens install the seats properly into their vehicles. Sgt. Daniel O'Reilly is in charge of Firearms Licensing and he spends many hours each year processing the applications. Sgt. Mark Ferretti oversees the Sexual Offender Registry for our department and conducts regular audits of the registered sex offenders who either live or work in Easton. Officer Denise Papagno is our domestic violence officer and president of the non-profit organization called H.U.G.S. which stands for Help Us Get Safe. This is an organization dedicated to assisting victims of domestic violence.

We recently promoted two officers. Officer Keith Nunes was promoted to sergeant and Sgt. Gary Sullivan was promoted to lieutenant. Congratulations to both. They both have earned their promotions.

Detective Sgt. John Lynn has worked very hard to create a new Easton Police website. The web address is: www.eastonpd.com. We hope that the site is useful for our citizens. Sgt Lynn is also trained in computer forensics and investigates crimes involving computers and cell phones. Det. Sgt. William Fulcher is in charge of our detective bureau and his hard work and dedication is very much appreciated. He has been with our department since 1974.

2009 CRIME STATISTICS

TOTAL INCIDENTS	**15,339**

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

Murder	0
Suicides	2
Attempted Suicides	10
Rapes	1
Sexual Assaults	3
Robberies	10
Assault & Battery/Weapons	6
Assault & Battery	32

PROPERTY CRIMES

BREAKING & ENTERING

B & E Residence	44
B & E Motor Vehicle	76
B & E Business or building	14
B & E Attempts	19

LARCENIES

Larcenies over $250	59
Larcenies under $250	69
Larceny of Motor Vehicles	12
Recovered Stolen Motor Vehicles	3
Shoplifting	37

IN CUSTODY

Total Arrests	167
Impaired Driving Arrests	33
Protective Custody	6

MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES

Domestic Violence	33
Disturbance	74
Disorderly Persons	21
Noise Complaints	129

General Service	774
Missing Persons	41
Vandalism	193
Alarms	1373
Annoying Phone Calls	40
Animal Complaints	278
Barking Dog Complaints	53

ACCIDENTS

Fatal Accidents	2
Property Damage Accidents	347
Personal Injury Accidents	77

PERMITS & CITATIONS

Traffic Citations	3035
Pistol Permits/FID's Issued	117

For questions, comments or concerns please contact either:

Lt. Gary Sullivan, telephone: 508-230-3322, email: gsullivan@easton.ma.us
Chief Allen Krajcik, telephone: 508-230-3322, email: akrajcik@easton.ma.us

Respectfully submitted,

Allen R. Krajcik
Chief of Police

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT

The Animal Control Department is responsible to enforce the State, Country, and our local animal laws. We work closely with our local Police, the Environmental Police, MSPCA, the State Department of Animal Health, the Animal Rescue League and our local Veterinarians.

All dogs three months or older need a license that may be obtained at the Town Clerks Office. The license will now be from January to December. We strongly stress how important the dog license and some form of identification for cats can be in a crisis.

A rabies vaccination is required by State law for all cats and dogs. It is extremely important in case of a bite incident or your pet having contact with wildlife, or a high risk domestic animal. Any animal that displays unusual behavior and we think may have rabies is sent to State for testing.
We submitted seven cats and two bats, all were negative.

ANIMAL STATISTICS
Calls received 1703
Complaints 1295
General information 408
Missing animals 89
Dogs picked up 32 (26 were returned to owner and 6 were turned over to the shelter)
Dead animals 169

Dead animals were 33 cats, 23 raccoons, 37 deer, 13 opossums, 12 squirrels, 6 skunks, 8 dogs, 6 foxes, 5 bats, 5 turkeys, 2 coyotes, 2 woodchucks, 2 hawks, 2 swans, 1 duck and 3 snakes.

We are continuing to pursue owners of unlicensed dogs, dog bites, nuisance complaints with follow up calls and hearings. We protect our citizens from intimidation and injury from animals. We protect the animals from health hazards, abuse, neglect and inhumane treatment according to the laws.
We can be reached by calling 508-230-3353or 508 -230-3322.

We would like to thank the following for their cooperation and support throughout the year; Police Chief and his department, the dispatchers, Fire Department, Town Administrator Office, Town Clerk Office, Board of Health, the Board of Selectmen and Public Works Director and the men of his department.

Respectfully submitted,

John Melin ACO
Elizabeth Depose ACO

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL INSPECTOR

Easton's Animal Inspectors function as officers in the field for the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, Division of Regulatory and Biosecurity Services, the State Department of Public Health, the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, the Environmental Police and our local Board of Health.

We are still keeping up the guard on the West Nile Virus. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has guidelines which must be met before we can send a bird in for testing. The bird must be of a specific species, it must not have been dead for more than twenty-four hours and the specimen must be free of maggots, flies, or ants. We submitted nine birds for testing, all of which tested negative.

This year Easton had seventeen animal bites reported which required follow-up. They were: thirteen dogs, three cats and one pet bird. These animals were placed under ten day quarantine.

A domestic animal that has a wound of unknown origin or has had an encounter with wildlife is placed under confinement which can be up to six months.

We are charged with conducting the State required Animal Census. The results are as follows: forty-two horses, eight goats, seven beef cattle and sixty-nine chickens.

The office responds to calls of wildlife sightings in backyards and on the roadways. Most of the calls are addressed by giving advice. It is very important that we don't leave pet food outside all the time and to keep rubbish containers covered. Wild animals are survivors in the wild, but if there is an easy accessible food source available, they will keep returning to the area, giving up their wild ways.

We check on the handling of domestic pets and domestic livestock according to State laws. We educate the public on issues of animal diseases and investigate all animal bites and encounters with wildlife. We work closely with the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Animal Rescue League, Environmental Police and our local veterinarians. We can be reaching by calling 508-230-3353or 508-230-0621 or 508-230-3322.

We would like to thank the Board of Health, Town Clerk's Office, the Department of Public Works and the Police and Fire Departments. Your help throughout the year is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
John Melin, Animal Inspector
Elizabeth DeRosa, Animal Inspector

TOWN OF EASTON
2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INSPECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

I hereby submit to you the annual report of the Office of the Inspector of Buildings and Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Single Family Dwellings	24
Multiple Family Dwellings	8
Additions-Residential	108
Alterations-Residential	172
New Commercial	2
Additions-Commercial	10
Alterations-Commercial	57
Demolished Buildings	12
Signs	34
Temporary Signs	7
Swimming Pools	8
Roofs	114
Siding	34
Replacement Windows/Doors	84
Temporary Tents	16
Earth Removal	1
Wood Stoves	21
Trench Permits	88
Foundations	29
Certificate of Inspections	58
Certificate of Occupancy	97

TOTALS		
TOTAL COST OF CONSTRUCTION:		$ 39,207,327.00
Total Building Fees Collected		$ 330,650.10
Total Number of Daily Building Inspections	2836	
Total Wiring Fees Collected		$ 64,499.00
Total Number of Wiring Permits Issued	590	
Total Gas Fees Collected		$ 12,145.00
Total Number of Gas Permits Issued	252	
Total Plumbing Fees Collected		$ 26,130.00
Total Number of Plumbing Permits Issued	301	
Total Mechanical Fees Collected		$ 1,124.00
Total Number of Mechanical Permits Issued	10	
Total Fees Collected for the Year 2009		$ 434,548.10

Telephone: 508-230-0580 Fax: 508-230-0589 email: mtrivett@easton.ma.us
pdebaggis@easton.ma.us
kgreiner@easton.ma.us
rgovey@easton.ma.us
sheath@easton.ma.us

Office Hours: Monday: 8:30 a.m. – 7:30 pm.
Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Susan Heath, Inspectional Services Department, Secretary
D. Mark Trivett, C.B.O., Inspector of Buildings, Zoning Enforcement Officer
Paul DeBaggis, Local Inspector, Zoning Enforcement Officer
Kevin S. Greiner, Local Inspector and Electrical Inspector
Robert Govey, Plumbing and Gas Inspector
Ellen Weene, Board of Appeals Secretary
John F. Amorim, Assistant Electrical Inspector
Paul Steeves, Assistant Plumbing and Gas Inspector
Ronald Wiseman, Assistant Plumbing and Gas Inspector

Responsibilities:

- Provide highest level of service to protect and support residents and those doing business in Easton through effective enforcement of State Building Codes and Town By-Laws.
- Perform plan reviews and issue permits for building, plumbing, gas, electrical, roofing, siding, replacement windows, pools, signs, wood stoves, HVAC systems, fire protection systems and demolition work.
- Provide prompt, fair and accurate inspections related to each permit.
- Issue certificates of occupancy upon completion of a project.
- Inspect and certify buildings, businesses and occupancies related to annual licensing and code requirements.
- Investigate complaints and zoning violations. Determine zoning compliance.

There were 24 building permits approved for new single-family dwellings in 2009 as compared to 13 building permits in 2008. There were 8 building permits issued for new two-family or multi-family dwelling units. Permits for residential additions and alterations numbered 280 in 2009 and there were 232 permits issued for roofing, siding and replacement windows and doors. The total estimated cost of residential construction in 2009 was $32,409,809 with the most significant project being a new $17,000,000 residence hall at Stonehill College.

Estimated cost of commercial construction in 2009 was $6,797,518 which included a new Ford Dealership at $2,741,809 and several tenant fit-ups and renovations in the Easton Industrial Park.

Receipts of $103,898 were collected for electrical, plumbing, gas and mechanical permits.

The Inspector of Buildings issued 58 Certificates of Inspection and 97 Certificates of Use and Occupancy.

The Inspectional Services staff performed 2,836 inspections and 19 emergency inspections.

The IS Department collected fees in the amount of $434,548.10 in the year 2009.

Again I would like to thank a dedicated and talented staff and all Town Departments for their assistance and support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Mark Trivett, CBO
Inspector of Buildings
Zoning Enforcement Officer

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Planning & Community Development (DPCD) is responsible for processing permits reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Board, the Historical Commission, and the Conservation Commission, as well as taking a leadership role in the long-range land use planning efforts of the Town. The Department also provides staff support to the Affordable Housing Trust, the Cemetery Commission, the Community Preservation Committee, the Historical Commission, the Fair and Affordable Housing Partnership and other town boards and committees as needed.

Historic Property Survey. As part of its implantation of the Easton Historical Preservation Plan (2008) the DPCD assisted the Easton Historical Commission in coordinating an update to historic property surveys for properties with the North Easton Village National Historic District, for which the Town received a $15,000 grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. This work began this past November and will be completed in June 2010.

Stormwater Management and Low Impact Development Task Force. The DPCD initiated a Stormwater Management/Low Impact Development Task Force to look for ways for Easton to reduce the long-term maintenance obligations of the Town, encourage sustainable development practices, increase awareness of non-point source water pollution, and comply with new Federal stormwater management regulations. The task force is charged with reviewing the town's existing stormwater management policies and regulations, developing a policy and guidebook clarifying the town's stormwater management policies and encouraging Low Impact Development (LID) methods, increasing public awareness to stormwater management._The kick-off meeting for the task force was December 20, 2007.

EPA Environmental Merit Award The Town of Easton received an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2009 Environmental Merit Award for the Town's longstanding commitment to environmental protection; the Town was nominated by the DPCD. *Open Space & Recreation Plan Update.* Easton's five-year Open Space and Recreation plan is now available online. This plan provides a guide for decision making to meet the Town's opens space and recreation needs, and makes the Town eligible to receive grant funding from the State. During the first quarter of 2010, staff will be working on updates to the plan that will allow the town to extend the plan three additional years.

Conservation Land Management. The DPCD worked with the Conservation Commission to coordinate development of a management plan for the Town's conservation land holdings, which was completed in July. The report identified specific land management practices for protecting the unique wildlife habitat that exists at the larger management areas and identified areas suitable for more active use such as agriculture. Staff has also coordinated building repairs at Tuft's Farm, in preparation

Public Access to Information. This past year, the Historical Commission's website was enhanced, and new websites were created for the Community Preservation Committee and the recently appointed Local Historic District Study Committee. These web pages provide access to meeting agendas, meeting minutes, board activities, Easton Rules and Regulations, maps, news, and links which may be of interest to Easton residents. If there is something you would like to see on the web, please let us know!

Permitting Automation. The DPCD is implementing permitting software that will allow applications to be submitted online by the end 2010.

For general inquiries, please call 508-230-0630, or visit our website at
www.easton.ma.us/directory/planning_comdev/PCDFS.htm

2009 REPORT OF
THE EASTON PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

We hereby submit the following report for the Year 2009 for the Easton Planning & Zoning Board. The Board continues to work responsibly with the administration and implementation of the Flexible Development Zoning By Laws adopted at Town Meeting in February 2000. These flexible zoning by-laws include Adult Retirement Developments, Open Space Residential Developments, Residential Compounds, Estate Lots and Common Driveways. These creative land planning and growth management tools have assisted with meeting the following community objectives:

* Encouraging more environmentally sensitive development;
* Preserving larger tracts of open space within or adjacent to new developments;
* Preserving Easton's remaining rural character;
* Minimizing long-term operating costs to the town through the approval of more private ways;
* Reducing the number of driveway cuts on a way thereby minimizing any public safety threat.

In 2009, the Planning and Zoning Board oversaw adoption of a number of amendments to the Zoning By Law to improve the development and permitting process.

Over the course of 25 meetings, and 1 meeting as the Planned Approval Authority along with the Easton Conservation Commission for the filing for Queset Commons. the Board approved or denied thirty-four (34) applications. These include one (1) Residential Compound Special Permit application, one (1) Estate Lot Special Permit application, one (1) Common Driveway Special Permit applications, two (2) Definitive Subdivision Special Permits and one (1) Residential Compound Modifications. The Board also received applications for twelve (12) Approval Not Required (Form A), nine (9) Site Plan Reviews, one (1) Modification to Site Plan Review, five (5) Preliminary Subdivision Plans, one (1) Modification to a Common Driveway Special Permit application, and the Queset Commons development application.

In February, Alice A. Savage was appointed Acting Director, later appointed as Planning Director. In June, Peter Deschenes was appointed as Alternate Member, replacing the unexpired term of Alexander Maller.

The Board appreciates the professional abilities, accomplishments and dedication provided by Ms. Alice Savage and Principal Clerk, Pamela Almeida. The Board would also like to thank our Town Administrator, David A. Colton, for his professionalism and support, as well as the various Town Departments, Boards, and Commissions for their cooperation and support.

In closing, any fellow citizen of Easton wishing to discuss an issue of concern may communicate this matter by calling the Planning & Zoning Board Office at 508-230-0630 or by contacting the Planning Director by email at asavage@easton.ma.us The Board also maintains an Internet presence on the Town of Easton web site.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Santoro, Esq., Chair
Colin W. Gillis, Esq., Clerk
Walter H. Johnson, Member
Gregory Strange, Member
John Duggan, Member
Peter Deschenes, Member

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Easton Conservation Commission administers, within the Town of Easton, the State Wetlands Protection Act, Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40 et seq. (the Act) and the Wetlands Protection By-Law (the By-law), Chapter 227, Code of the Town of Easton with the regulations promulgated thereunder, 3 1OCMR 10.55 et seq. under the Act and Chapter 503 of the Town Code as to the By-Law.

In addition to administration and enforcement, the Commission has custody and control of the nearly four thousand acres of land held for conservation purposes, on behalf of the town. These management areas are open to the public for passive recreational enjoyment. In 2009, volunteer Eames Bennett created a map on behalf of the Commission describing these areas and showing their locations, associated histories and recreational opportunities. This map is available on the Town's website (www.easton.ma.us) through the Conservation Commission webpage (click on Departments, then select Conservation Commission).

In October the Conservation Commission acquired under its care and management an important parcel of land off Massapoag Avenue. This parcel, consisting of 13.92 acres, was recommended by the Community Preservation Committee and voted at Town Meeting to be purchased with CPA funds. This parcel is a key piece of the northern section of the Poquanticut Brook Management Area. It completes over 1000 feet of forested roadside vista and an almost three mile, virtually contiguous, open space corridor. It also provides roadside access to the management area. The Commission wishes to thank the Community Preservation Committee for its support in acquiring this valuable natural resource.

The Commission conducted 23 public meetings in 2009, during which 50 public hearings requesting permits for work and confirmation of wetland resource area delineations relative to the Act and By-Law were opened. The Commission issued the following in 2009:

- 27 Orders of Conditions and Permits for Work,
- 7 Determinations of Applicability,
- 11 Extended Orders of Conditions and Permits for Work,
- 17 Full Certificates of Compliance, and
- 1 Partial Certificate of Compliance

The majority of hearings in 2009 involved the average home owner seeking to increase living space or repair failing septic systems. The Commission strives to ensure that these simpler projects are reviewed as expeditiously as possible.

In addition to the prior public meetings, the Conservation Commission and the Planning & Zoning Board conducted two joint public hearings related to the proposed Queset Commons project, due to the project's complexity and its potential to have significant impacts on wetland resources if not properly designed.

The Conservation Commission is also responsible for

The Commission reminds Easton Residents that activities resulting in the alteration of wetlands, streams, rivers, swamps and low lying areas and buffer zones may be within the Commission's jurisdiction. Alteration is a broadly defined term, but includes: removal or cutting trees (even if dead), clearing brush, disposal of lawn clippings and leaves, landscaping, installation of patios and walkways, or operation of ATVs and motor bikes. To avoid enforcement, Contact the Commission before starting any work , and be aware of the resources on your property.

enforcement when a violation of the Act or By-law has occurred. Violations are investigated and Enforcement Orders are issued as appropriate. When necessary, legal action may be taken against the violator(s) by the Commission. In 2009, the Commission initiated thirteen enforcement actions. At this time, none of the 2009 enforcements have resulted in legal action. Many wetlands violations occur as a result of property owners' lack of awareness of the laws, knowledge of wetland and buffer zones and prohibited activities within those resources.

During enforcement, our primary objective is to work with people to educate them, restore the impacted resource area and prevent future violations. The Commission is pleased to report that the property owners involved in enforcement cases this year have been very cooperative in working with the Commission to resolve the issue. When necessary, however, the Commission has resources available to remedy violations. These include: civil action, criminal complaint, injunctive relief, and the imposition of fines.

The Commission and its staff are integral to the Town's Planning and Community Development Department. This year, our Land Use Agent, Stephanie Danielson, conducted 124 jurisdictional inspections in response to Building Permit Applications. A number of these inspections resulted in filings before the Commission. The staff also provided technical review and comment to the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning & Zoning Board, the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator.

The Commission contracted with Call of the Wild to develop a comprehensive management plan for the Town's conservation land holdings, which was completed in July. The report identified specific land management practices for protecting the unique wildlife habitat that exists at the larger management areas and identified areas suitable for more active use such as agriculture. The Commission is in the process of developing an action plan based on the report's findings.

In addition to project reviews, hearings and site visits, staff attended several educational workshops including the Annual Agricultural Commission Conference, RailVolution, the Annual Taunton Riverwatershed Forum, Forest Management for Landowner's workshop and MACC training workshops. The Commission also co-hosted a landowner preservation workshop with the Trust for Public Lands and The Nature Conservancy.

The Commission's webpage, located on the Town of Easton website (http://www.easton.ma.us), provides useful information about the Commission including its schedule and upcoming agenda, minutes of past meetings. An overview of wetlands protection and forms necessary for filing projects with the Commission and other helpful and informative resources are also available on the site. Here you will also find rules and regulations governing the use of all conservation land in Easton.

The Commission may be reached via email, or by phone at (508) 230-0630 or by fax at (508) 230-0639. Commission meetings are generally held on the first and third Monday evenings, and Tuesday evenings when there is a preceding Monday holiday. Our meeting schedule is posted on the website. All meetings are open to the public, except for Executive Sessions. Residents are encouraged to come observe any Commission meeting to learn more about wetlands protection and why it matters.

The Commission would like to thank Pamela Almeida (Secretary), Stacey Lincoln (Recording Secretary) and Stephanie Danielson (Land Use Agent) for their support and dedication this past year. We welcome our new Recording Secretary, Alice Hollingsworth, who replaced Ms. Lincoln during 2009. Further, we express our gratitude to David Colton, Town Administrator, the Board of Selectmen and all appointed and elected Boards and Commissions of the Town who have worked in conjunction with the Commission to support the protection of wetlands and care of open space in the town. We are grateful to the citizens of the Town of Easton, for their cooperation and their support as we perform the duties entrusted to us.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Haederle, Chair
(phaederle@yahoo.com)
Kyla Bennett, Vice Chair
(biojustus@comcast.net)
John E. Grant
(crgelachie@aol.com)
Jonathan D. Chace
(jcchace@comcast.net)
Michael A. Ganshirt
(wawaloon@comcast.net)

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS

We, the members of the Board of Appeals respectfully submit the following Annual Report for the year 2009.

The Board of Appeal's responsibilities are to hear applications filed for Special Permits, Variances and Administrative Appeals pursuant to Chapter 40A, Mass. General Laws in addition to applications filed for Comprehensive Permits pursuant to Chapter 40B Mass. General Laws. Twenty seven (27) petitions, comprised of nine (9) Variances; thirteen (13) Special Permits; and five (5) Site Plans were received by the Board of Appeals during the year, which in conformity with the law, were duly advertised and copies of notices were given to all Town Boards and mailed to all parties of interest as defined in Section 11, Chapter 40A, Mass. General Laws.

In 2009, the Board of Selectmen reappointed Walter Mirrione as a full Board Member. Scott Erlich was reappointed by the Board of Selectmen as an Alternate Member.

	Site Plan	Variance	Special Permit	Comprehensive Permit
Petitions Granted	1	4	7	1
Petitions Denied		1		
Petitions Withdrawn/Dismissed	1	2	1	
Chapter 40B				
Continued to 2010	3	2	3	
To Be Heard in 2010			2	

The Board wishes to recognize and commend all Town Officials and personnel who provided assistance to the Board during the year.

The Board would also like to thank their secretary, Ellen Weene, for her hard work and dedication. The Board of Appeals Secretary can be reached at the Town Offices at (508)230-0590.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Mirrione, Chairman
Thomas A. Pursley, Vice-Chairman
Stephen Pinzari, Clerk
John Tupper
Christopher Pike
Scott E. Erlich, Alternate
Paul T. Prew, Alternate

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE FAIR AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Town of Easton's Fair and Affordable Housing Partnership Committee (FAHPC) charter was reduced from seven members to five members in late 2009. We want to thank departing committee members Ilisabeth Bornstein and Carl Rispettoso for their service on the committee. Carl has volunteered to remain as a nonvoting, associate member.

In 2009 the committee met with representatives for a comprehensive permit request for 31 Williams Street and drafted a letter of recommendation for the project with suggested changes to the Board of Selectmen. The committee also met with representatives from BIC Nehemiah for a proposed project at 12A Highland Street. CPA funds were requested and approved at Town Meeting for a site suitability survey. The survey found that the originally suggested housing was not feasible for the site. Current plans for that site are to seek requests for bids for an affordable, one-family home to be inhabited by the winner of a housing lottery. The committee looks forward to working with BIC Nehemiah on projects in the future. In addition to the two housing projects mentioned above, the committee reviewed plans for developments at Queset Commons and Ames Shovel Shop.

The FAHPC also explored the possibility of allowing Accessory Dwelling Units as part of its housing inventory. A letter requesting consideration to include Accessory Dwelling Units in Easton was written to the Board of Selectmen, along with a suggested model zoning by-law. Although this type of dwelling does not necessarily add to the town's affordable housing unit count, it would help to diversify types of housing within the town and make available a less costly alternative for young couples or elderly residents who may wish to be near family but remain independent.

As an outreach to members of the community, the FAHPC displayed information at the annual NRT Harvest Fair. Information regarding Fair Housing, Affordable Housing and Housing Assistance were available.

The current Affordable Housing Production Plan will expire mid-2010. The committee is in the process of seeking approval for use of Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds to hire a consultant to assist in updating the plan to be in compliance with updated Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) rules.

The Fair and Affordable Housing Partnership Committee meets monthly at the Town Offices and we encourage the public to attend. We look forward to working with the newly established Easton Affordable Housing Trust to expand housing opportunities for all income levels of the Town's residents.

In closing, we want to thank Alice Savage, Director of Planning & Community Development for her valuable guidance and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Bonia, Chair; Mary Fitzgerald, Clerk; Paula Piccinin; Calvin Harris; and Ghardy Daniel

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE EASTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Easton Historical Commission (EHC) continues in its efforts to identify, evaluate and protect Easton's historic and archeological resources. The EHC works cooperatively with the Town's other commissions, boards and committees to monitor and help guide any effects that development and change can bring to Easton's unique historic character. We are available as a resource to any citizen for information and guidance regarding the preservation of historic properties, landscapes and archeological sites in the Town of Easton.

The EHC's activities this past year included:

- Continued to work on meeting the goals of the Historic Preservation Plan
- Continued active support in the maintenance of the Rockery
- Review of projects that might impact the nature of the Town's historical areas
- Establishment of Demolition Review Regulations and the Application for Demolition Review
- Review and disposition of Demolition Permit requests for properties over 75 years old
- Continued active support of the Unity Church restoration project
- Continued support for a local historic district in the North Easton village area
- Monitored plans for the preservation/development of JO Dean Mill
- Monitored plans for the preservation/development of Shovel Shops
- Monitored plans for the restoration of Queset Gardens
- Supported CPA funding for the preservation of JO Dean Mill, the ongoing Unity Church restoration project and the rehabilitation of Queset Gardens
- Worked with property owners throughout the year on various restorations, additions and preservation projects

The EHC presented achievement awards again this year at its annual Awards Ceremony held on December 6th at the Ames Free Library. The purpose of these awards is to offer recognition to those who have expended significant efforts in preservation and restoration of our Town's many treasures, whether great or small. Louise and James Kenneally were presented with the W.L. Chaffin Award for their contributions to the preservation of Easton's history. Bill Ames accepted the Clement C. Briggs Award on behalf of the Ames Free Library for the extensive renovations made to the Library. Awards were also presented in many categories in the "Beauty of Easton" photography contest, which was very well attended. We thank both the Bank of Easton for its continued generous support of this popular event and the Ames Free Library for hosting this year's Awards Ceremony.

The Boston Post Cane still resides with Amalie Kramer, Easton's most senior citizen. Our thanks go to the North Easton Savings Bank for its sponsorship of this program.

During the past year, members of the EHC were active in other town roles and community organizations. Melanie Deware is the clerk of the Cemetery Commission. John Ventresco is a director of the Friends of Borderland. Edmund Hands serves on the Community Preservation Act Committee, the board of the Natural Resources Trust and on the board of the Historical Society. Dr. Greg Galer is a member of the Town/Gown Committee between Stonehill College and the Town of Easton. Karen Cacciapuoti is the director of the Friends of Easton Public Gardens. In addition, the EHC members attend many presentations and workshops during the year.

Two new members have been added to the EHC in 2009: Karen Cacciapuoti and Tim Hurley. The EHC wishes to thank David Olson for his service during the year. We also thank Stephanie Danielson, Staff Liaison, for all of her assistance to the EHC this year.

The EHC welcomes comments and questions and is eager to assist any citizen with issues related to historic preservation in Town. Whether we can help with a restoration/renovation issue, homestead research, or understanding by-laws, please contact us via the Town Offices at 136 Elm Street, North Easton, through our link on the Town website: www.easton.ma.us, or by calling the chairman at 508-238-0373.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie J.L. Deware, Chairman
John J. Ventresco, Vice Chairman
Paul Fitzpatrick, Secretary
Karen Cacciapuoti
Dr. Gregory J. Galer
Edmund Hands
Tim Hurley

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE

The Town of Easton's Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is comprised of four citizens "at large" and five members selected from other Town boards and committees. The citizens-at-large include: Patricia Hunt, Esq., former selectwoman and former FinCom member; James Lee, an engineer and past president of the Friends of Wheaton Farm; Avery Lee Williams, businessperson active in many community organizations; and Colleen Less, Esq., member of the School Committee and former selectwoman. John Grant serves on the committee for the Easton Conservation Commission; Edmund Hands serves for the Easton Historical Commission; Len Cidado for the Easton Recreation Commission; Gregory Strange serves for the Easton Planning and Zoning Board; and Dennis Sheedy for the Easton Housing Authority. We want to thank departing PZB representative Christine Santoro and at-large member James (Doug) Mullen for their service on the committee. A warm welcome is extended to our new members Greg Strange and Jim Lee.

The Community Preservation Act was signed into law in September of 2000, to provide a dedicated funding stream for the preservation of open space, historic resources and community housing. At that time, statistics were showing that open space in Massachusetts was being developed at a rate of 44 acres per day and our legislators realized that funding would be needed to preserve our fast-disappearing open spaces. Today, development of our open spaces and historic sites continues. CPA funding is provided through a local real estate tax surcharge and a statewide registry of deeds surcharge. The state funds are distributed to participating communities as matching funds in October of each year. The state match can be as much as 100% of the total amount raised by a community in the preceding fiscal year, depending upon how much revenue is collected by the state and how many communities are participating. Easton's CPA surcharge has two exemptions: the first $100,000 of value of each residence and an exemption for property owned by lower income persons.

Since 2002, the Commonwealth distributed six rounds of 100% state CPA matching funds to participating communities. Together with 33 other communities, Easton participated from the start and received that first 100% state match in 2002 and for the next five years. In 2008, Easton received a 76% match and, this past October, received a 44% state match of $361,778. The state match has decreased these past two years because more communities now participate in CPA, sharing the matching funds, and because of the economic downturn. Although the state matches have decreased, an investment with a 44% return is a good investment. Because Easton voters had the foresight to adopt CPA at the outset, Easton has maximized its receipt of state matching funds. This latest award increases Easton's total state matching funds to $4.6 million.

As of December 31, 2009, Easton's CPA reserves are as follows: $1,041.430 in housing reserves; $20,678 in historic preservation reserves; $676,825 in open space reserves; and $7,740,153 in unreserved CPA funds. The separate reservations are required by the Community Preservation Act - 10% must be set aside or spent on: historic preservation; community housing; and open space preservation. The balance of CPA funds are not reserved for any particular CPA purpose, but must be spent on CPA-eligible projects. To be funded, a CPA project needs the favorable recommendation of the CPA Committee and, then, Town Meeting approval.

This year, CPA funds were approved for the following historic projects: to conduct a multi-year Historic Resources Survey ($88,000); to restore the historic Pine Grove Cemetery ($30,000) upon the transfer of its ownership to the Town; for restoration work on the Oakes Ames Memorial Hall ($15,700) in exchange for a historic preservation restriction; for restoration work on the Unity Church ($250,000); and for the Ames Free Library's restoration of the Town-owned Italian Gardens behind the newly-renovated library ($69,400). It is noted that the Town already holds a historic preservation restriction on the Unity Church. CPA funds are paid on that project only as the restoration work progresses and upon certification by an architect that the work is completed according to plan and approval of the Historic Commission. $360,000 in CPA funding was also approved this year for the acquisition of a historic preservation restriction on the Dean Mill, subject to the successful moving and restoration of the Mill by the owner. The vote on the Dean Mill project provided that no funds will pass to the owner of the Dean Mill until the work is completed to the satisfaction of the Historic Commission and the Town.

This year, the Town also acquired 14 acres of land on Massapoag Ave. with CPA funding. The purchase price was $375,000. This parcel of land is a gem, with diverse habitat of hardwood and softwood forest, upland and wetlands. A stream runs through the parcel. It is located in the Canoe River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and is surrounded on three sides by other Town-owned conservation land. It is a link in the greenbelt corridor that runs from the Hockomock Swamp to our south, up and through Wheaton Farm, and on to Borderland State Park and beyond.

The Town also awarded $13,600 in funding for feasibility studies for two affordable housing projects. Those studies included engineering and other review work of two Town-owned parcels of land to determine their suitability for housing construction.

The Town's previous CPA expenditures are:

Historic Resources:
$100,000 - Olmsted Rockery - restoration project;
$380,000 - Unity Church - restoration project/historic preservation/public access restriction;
$5000 - Historic Preservation Plan; and
$3000 - WWI Monument - restoration project.

Open Space and Recreation:
$142,614 - Olmsted/Richardson School - playground creation project;
$1.375 million purchase price – 40 acre parcel of land located on Dean Street; and
Feasibility studies for the creation of new recreation fields on Town-owned parcel on Foundry Street and parcels on Depot Street, Washington Street, and Williams Street.

Community Housing:
$25,000 - May Institute - four units of affordable housing; and
Affordable Housing Plan.

When the voters passed the CPA in Easton, many reasons were given, including the implementation of the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan. As previously outlined during Town Meeting presentations and in prior reports, the Plan lists several priority parcels for the Town's acquisition. If we follow the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan, the Town's long-term open space and recreation needs will be satisfied: protection of water supply and watershed areas; preservation of the Town's major scenic vistas and historic landscapes; connection of important wildlife habitat and green spaces; and accommodation of the community's current and future needs for passive and active recreation and for recreational field space. One of the priority parcels identified in the Open Space and Recreation Plan contains more than 100 acres and is suitable for a new recreational playing fields complex, with the potential to hold up to 20 all-purpose playing fields. We believe that such an important acquisition would satisfy the Town's current and future needs for recreational playing fields. When it costs approximately $760,000 to develop one all-purpose playing field, we know that implementing the Open Space and Recreation Plan will not come cheaply. We do not know when these parcels will be available for acquisition, but the Town must be financially ready to acquire them when they are or they will be lost to development. Many of the open spaces that we take for granted are not protected; their development would change the character of the Town as we now know it.

This year, the Town also faced new challenges in protecting its historic sites. As of the writing of this report, the CPA Committee is conducting hearings on an application for $7.5 million in CPA funds to assist with the Shovel Shop development project, a historic preservation project. When this report is issued, it is likely that a decision will have been made by the Committee on that project.

The Committee meets on a monthly basis at the Town Offices and more often, as needed. Our meetings are open to the public and we encourage the public to attend. We hold one public hearing each year and report to the Town Meeting on an annual basis. We can be reached through the Easton Town Offices, 136 Elm St. Easton, MA 02356.

Respectfully submitted
for the Committee,
Patricia Hunt, Chairperson

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

The Recreation Department is responsible for planning, organizing and implementing year-round recreational programs and activities to serve the needs of all ages within the community. The department is comprised of a full-time Recreation Director and a part-time Program Director with the help of several part-time program instructors and volunteers. A seven member Recreation Commission meets monthly to guide the overall direction and policy of the department. We thank Commission member Kathleen DeGrandis, who resigned this year, for all of her contributions while serving on the commission, and we welcome Jennifer Gallagher, who will fulfill the remainder of Kathleen's term. The programs and activities offered during 2009 are listed below.

Youth Programs:

Homework Club, Chess, Running Club, Lacrosse, Ice Skating Lessons, Ski & Snowboard Lessons, Snow Tubing, February and April Vacation Activities, Tee Ball & Pre-Baseball, Flag Football, Super Sports, Girl's Volleyball, Golf Lessons, Exploring Science and Mixing Up a Mess, American Girl Doll Create & Play, Lego Playland, Ultimate Frisbee, Mouse Robot, CSI, Harry Potter Travel on Platform 9¾, Can You Dig It, Full Day Summer Program, Swimming Lessons at the Town Pool, Swim Team at the Town Pool, Archery, Multi Sports, Tennis, Girl's Basketball, Children's Races, Star Wars Jedi Training Workshop, Mini Sports, Girl's Science Club II, Acting Classes, Karate

Adult Programs and Special Events:

Volleyball, Men's Basketball, Yoga, Golf, Tennis, Ultimate Frisbee, Holiday Egg Hunt, Spring & Fall Trips to New York City, Opening Day Celebration at the Town Pool, Senior BBQ, Summer Concerts, Boston Tall Ships Cruise, Annie at the Providence Performing Arts Center

There is still work to be done in developing programs for preschoolers, teens and adults. However, the Recreation and Council on Aging Departments will soon be moving out of the town offices and into our own building. This will allow us the space to further expand program offerings. Our focus as we begin 2010 will be to offer a variety of affordable programs for all ages at our new community center, Frothingham Hall. It is important that our department continue working towards becoming self funding; having our own program space will help tremendously.

The Friends of Frothingham Hall, Inc. is a non-profit organization that has recently formed to help raise funds to support the Recreation Department and Council on Aging. These funds will assist in the preservation, renovation and maintenance of Frothingham Hall, and support the projects, events, programs and special activities organized by both departments. Friends Group membership is open to all interested individuals.

The Activate Easton Committee works in conjunction with the Recreation Department to encourage and facilitate healthy lifestyles for individuals and families in our community. The goal of the committee is to promote healthy eating habits and provide opportunities for physical activity. Members of the committee include representatives from the Recreation Department, School Committee, YMCA, local businesses and concerned community members. Below is a list of the educational opportunities and activities Activate Easton organized this year.

February Family Fitness Program provided free health and fitness opportunities at local businesses
Healthy celebration ideas were distributed to Easton elementary schools
TV Turnoff Week activities included a scavenger hunt, bike rides and family fun run
MA Safe Routes to School Program at Olmsted and Richardson Schools
Celebrations on International Walk to School Day and Massachusetts Walk to School Day
Public screening of the movie *Consuming Kids: The Commercialization of Childhood*

In the spring of 2009 our new tee ball field opened at Torie's Place Park behind the old North Easton Grammar School. We would like to thank the DPW for all their hard work constructing the field. We are also grateful to Eagle Scout candidate, Jimmy Pires and his Boy Scout troop for completing an Eagle Scout Project at the park. The project consisted of cleaning up trash and debris, constructing and installing picnic tables and tee ball benches, planting bushes, raking and chalking the field, removing grafitti and replacing it with a mural. We would like to thank Jimmy and Troop 193 for making the park a more inviting place to visit.

The department is extremely grateful to the H.U.G.S. organization for donating $10,000 to fund the homework club and late bus at the Middle School. The homework club is a free program for children in grades 6-8 in which teachers are available after school to help with homework questions or problems. The late bus provides transportation home for children enrolled in the homework club and other after school activities. We thank H.U.G.S. on behalf of the many families who utilize these invaluable services.

The department continues to work with the CPA Committee to identify and acquire additional open space for recreational purposes. We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to purchase land for development as a recreational site when an appropriate parcel becomes available.

Save Easton Recreation Department (SERD) continues to assist the department with additional funding for the town pool when needed. We are very thankful for their support and feel fortunate to have such a unique facility for the community to enjoy each summer.

The department has been working hard to increase revenue, reduce expenses and seek program sponsors and donations. Many of our programs couldn't take place without the kindness of volunteers and generosity of donations and sponsorships. We would like to thank the many program instructors, volunteers, organizations, businesses and donators who have supported our department during 2009.

The department distributes quarterly program flyers listing all of our seasonal program offerings throughout the Easton public schools. Program information is also printed in the local newspapers and posted on the town website and town crier. We encourage program ideas, suggestions and feedback from the community. A program evaluation form is available online at www.easton.ma.us to help us better serve the residents of Easton. Please contact our office at 508-230-0650 for more information or questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Hruniak, Recreation Director
Anne Daley, Program Director
Michael McDonald, Chairman
Tana Babbitt
Robert Benton
Leonard Cidado
Jennifer Gallagher
Charles Hammond
Elizabeth Nikiciuk

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE VETERANS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT

During 2009 the Town of Easton's Veterans' Services Department assisted over 545 veterans and/or their dependents.

Forty-eight veterans and/or their dependents received $198,737.92 in financial assistance for household and medical expenses under Chapter 115 of Massachusetts General Laws. This assistance program is open to low income Easton veterans or their dependents who meet the income and asset guidelines that are established by the Commissioner of Veterans' Services. The veterans' benefits issued by the Town of Easton during 2009 were paid from local appropriation. The State will reimburse the Town for 75% of the veterans' benefits issued. In addition to this Benefits Program, Chapter 115 also provided an Annual Annuity of $2,000 each to 34 disabled veterans or their dependents paid by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services. Certain 100% service-connected disabled veterans, Gold Star parents, and Gold Star spouses are eligible for this annuity program. Applications are available at this Veterans' Services Department.

The Veterans Administration estimates that veterans from the Town of Easton received over $ 2,975,000 in VA benefits last year. These benefits went mainly to veterans for service connected disabilities, paid by the federal government, at no cost to the residents of Easton. Some of the benefits are for non-service connected pensions, which includes Aid and Attendance for housebound veterans and/or their spouses. This office handled 124 applications for VA benefits during 2009.

The Director of Veterans' Services made 74 trips to the VA hospitals as well as local hospitals to insure that veterans in need of transportation were able to get the medical care they need and have earned as a result of their service to this country.

This office was involved with citizens of Easton, especially a dedicated contingent from St. Mark's Church, in continuing Operation Mail Call. The purpose of this organization is to help insure that Easton citizens serving in the Armed Forces in Afghanistan and Iraq know how grateful we are for their service.

Other services provided to the veterans of Easton include help in obtaining separation papers, service medals, property tax exemptions, and fuel assistance.

I wish to thank the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, Town Administrator, members of the American Legion Post #7, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #2547, and the residents and businesses of Easton for their continued support of our veterans.

Semper Fi

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Nolan
Director of Veterans' Services

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF SELF HELP, INC.

During the program year ending September 30, 2009 Self Help, Inc., received a total funding of approximately $27.5M and provided direct services to 34,481 limited income households in the area.

In the TOWN OF EASTON Self Help, Inc. provided services totaling $488,055 to 747 households during program year 2009.

Self Help's total funding of $27,410,394 does not tell the real value of services delivered to the area as a whole. This funding enabled us to mobilize an additional $2,134,300 of other community resources such as, volunteers, donations of space, and private donations in the form of goods and services. Therefore, the total impact of Self Help, Inc. during the past program year was $29,544,694.

In addition, Self Help currently employs 285 individuals. Many of these individuals are of limited income and most reside in our service area.

We feel that October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009 was a successful program year for us because we were able to assist as many individuals and/or families as we did, regardless of the challenges of being a human service provider.

We thank the Town of Easton and your representative to our board Ms. Doreen Lindsay, and all the volunteers for helping us to make fiscal year 2009 a successful one.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Wang
Human Resource Director

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

During 2009, the Council on Aging reached out to the 4,332 residents of Easton age 60 or over through our monthly newsletter that was distributed to many business locations around town and was mailed, or e-mailed to individuals upon request. The Council provided approximately 25,400 units of service in transportation, nutrition, recreation, and outreach to 1,187 individuals.

We provided 7,193 rides for 159 elderly and disabled residents to medical appointments, grocery stores, shopping malls, local hairdressers and to the community buildings at Parker Terrace and Elise Circle for Council on Aging programs on our lift-equipped shuttle vans. We also connected with the Brockton Area Transit Dial-a-Bat service for transportation to Boston area medical appointments.

During the year, the Council offered a number of health promotion programs. Two nurses from Pedi-Care, Inc. provided foot care and a hearing instrument consultant from Mass. Audiology conducted hearing screenings and minor hearing-aid repairs at monthly clinics. Southeast Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center sponsored a number of monthly Wellness Programs for our residents. We were able to continue a twice-weekly exercise program and our weekly Tai-Chi class with funding from Stonehill College and we are truly grateful for their support of our elderly programs. Seniors participated in recreational programs including bridge, crafts, cribbage, knitting, line dancing, and quilting. We were fortunate to have many volunteers who helped us during the year, making it possible for us to run a wide variety of programs for our elderly including meals on wheels delivery to our homebound elders and help for our seniors with filing income tax returns and answering their health insurance questions. A number of senior volunteers participated in the Senior Tax-Relief program and provided valuable help to the town while receiving a property tax credit for their hours of service.

We are thankful to the many groups and individuals who enriched the lives of our elderly residents through their generous gifts of time and support. The Recreation Commission provided a Summer Barbecue in June for our elderly residents including entertainment by the Double Eagle Oktoberfest Band and sponsored a Holiday motorcoach trip in December. The Easton Lions Club held their annual cookout and Eye Mobile health screenings for our elderly residents in September. Students, family and volunteers from Personal Best Karate continued their Turkey Brigade-to-Go and delivered hot turkey dinners on Thanksgiving Day to a number of our elderly residents. Children in the K.I.D.S. (**K**indness to **I**ndividuals **D**eserving **S**upport) program at the F.L. Olmstead and H.H. Richardson Schools provided wonderful gift boxes for our elderly who attended our Holiday Program or received meals on wheels in December and the Knights of Columbus held their annual Christmas Party for our elderly residents. We thank the Bristol County Sheriff's Dept., the Easton Police and Fire Departments and senior participants of TRIAD who provided a number of programs which promote the safety and well being of our elderly residents.

Our part-time Outreach Coordinator made home visits and arranged a variety of home care services for elders by working with Old Colony Elderly Services, volunteer groups, and private homemaker agencies. She coordinated educational programs in the Community Center at Parker Terrace and assisted elders in applying for fuel assistance and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

We extend our appreciation to the Easton Housing Authority, the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee and the residents of Easton for their support of elder services and programs. We look forward to working with town officials as plans proceed to renovate Frothingham Hall for use as a multi-purpose community center and look forward to moving into this wonderful, historic building in early 2010 where we can offer programs and services for our elderly residents. For more information on programs and services, please contact Dolores Kent, COA director, at 508-230-0540 or by e-mail, dkent@easton.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted:
Francis Spillane, Chairman
Nicolina Previti, Vice-chairman
Ethel Pomerleau, Secretary
David Cudmore, Member
Rose Friedeborn, Member
Marie Healey, Member
Jean Shearing, Member
Dolores Kent, Director

2009 REPORT OF
THE CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Commission is responsible for ensuring that our town owned cemeteries are maintained for our future generations. The biggest concern we have now is the damage the weather is causing to the stones. We try with our available funds to clean, straightening and reset or replacing monuments where needed.

We have the Easton Cemeteries Records on a database and will be up dating them when needed. We have been getting ready to start on the rehabilitation of the Pine Grove Cemetery which was established in 1796.

We are currently working on drafting cemetery procedures once the lay out work is done.

We made sight visits to all the cemeteries during the summer. We follow up on the veterans buried in all of our cemeteries.

We would like to express our thanks to Paul O'Neill and his crew for the excellent job in mowing and cleaning the town owned cemeteries.

We would like to express our appreciation to our Town Officials, all town department heads and the residents of Easton for their support throughout the year in helping us to maintain the care of our cemeteries.

We encourage our residents to take some and visit our historic cemeteries and read some of the scripts on the stones.

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The Commission can be reach by calling 508-230-0501.

Respectfully submitted,
John Melin Chairman
Melanie Deware
Kit Minsky

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

As your representatives to the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC), we are pleased to present this report on behalf of the Council for 2009.

The Old Colony Planning Council was established in 1967 by state statute and is authorized to prepare plans for the physical, social and economic development of the fifteen-member community region. OCPC is designated as: an Economic Development District by the U.S. Department of Commerce for the coordination of regional economic development activities; an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to plan, manage and coordinate elder services in a twenty-three community service area; and, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to plan and program transportation and transit improvements for the region.

In addition to the above-designated responsibilities, the Council also assists its member municipalities with technical planning, grant application preparation and current local and regional trends socioeconomic information.

During the past year, the Council completed work on the Old Colony 2009 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Plan; the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) 2010-2013 Area Plan on Aging; the Council also completed work on several Open Space and Recreation Plans for OCPC's communities; the FFY 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); the Route 18 Corridor Study in Abington, Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, and Whitman; Completed Road Safety Audits in Brockton (Route 123/Linwood Street), Easton (Route 106/138, Route 106/Prospect Street, Route 106/Route 123, Route 138/Elm Street, and Route 138/Union Street) Stoughton (Route 27/School Street); The Annual Regional Traffic Volume Report; the BAT - FY 2009 Ridership Report, Old Colony Human Service Coordination Plan Update, Bat Title VI Study, Transit Fare Analysis Study, Easton and Rockland Transit Service Feasibility Study; and numerous Intersection/Technical Studies. This past year, the Council also provided technical assistance to member communities on numerous programs such as: regionalization of local services; ARRA Grant opportunities; expedited permitting; Economic Target Areas; conducted approximately 180 turning movement counts (TMCs) and 160 Average Daily Traffic (ADTs) counts throughout the region; and continued participation in the New Bedford/Fall River South Coast Rail Taskforce. OCPC is also in the process of completing work with the Massachusetts Department of Environment Protection (DEP), the City of Brockton and the towns of Abington, Avon, Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, Easton, West Bridgewater, and Whitman on the Upper Taunton Basin Regional Wastewater Evaluation Study. OCPC also administered the Septic Loan Program for the towns of Hanson, Kingston, Pembroke and Stoughton. The Area Agency on Aging also provided grant funding to fourteen distinct supportive services programs, which provided more than 130,000 hours of service and assistance to over 2,700 elders throughout the region. The OCPC-AAA Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program conducted over 1,900 visits to nursing and rest-homes, investigating over 1,200 issues of concern from residents or families.

Each member community of the Council is represented by one delegate and one alternate member. The Council members establish policy, develop the work program, and employ and oversee the activities of the professional staff. The Council meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the OCPC offices located at 70 School Street, Brockton, MA. In 2009, the Council re-elected Jeanmarie Kent Joyce of Easton as Council President; Robert G. Moran, Jr., of

Brockton as Council Treasurer; and, Lee Hartmann of Plymouth as Council Secretary. Pasquale Ciaramella serves as Executive Director of the Council.

The Council gratefully acknowledges the generous support and cooperation of its member communities and the participation and involvement of the many individuals who participate as members of committees. Special thanks are extended to Joint Transportation Committee Chair Noreen O'Toole; Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Chair Mary Waldron; and, the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Committee Chair James Taylor for their dedication, commitment and leadership during the year. The Council also recognizes the work of local boards and commissions and the government agencies, public and private institutions and individuals who assisted the Council in its efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanmarie Kent Joyce, Delegate
Stephen Donahue, Alternate
Matthew Striggles, Delegate At-Large

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2009

REPORT OF THE OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL AREA AGENCY ON AGING

The Delegate and Alternate to the Old Colony Planning Council Area Agency on Aging (OCPC-AAA) Advisory Committee are pleased to present this report of the Area Agency on Aging activities for federal fiscal year 2009.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT:
The OCPC-AAA is responsible for planning, coordinating and funding elder services under the Older Americans Act in the 23 community region served by the program. The OCPC-AAA, in conjunction with input form the 23 community Advisory Committee, has focused its efforts on developing a network of services and programs to serve the unmet needs of elders from throughout the region. In fiscal year 2009, the OCPC-AAA provided grant funding to various service provider agencies for the following types of program and services:

*Mental Health Services
*Personal Care & Respite
*Transportation
*Services for Disabled Elders
*Legal Services
*Emergency Intervention Service
*Congregate and Home Delivered Meals
*Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program
*Family Caregiver Support

The OCPC-AAA Advisory Committee Delegates and Alternates play a key role in the development and support of elder services and programs in the region. Committee members from each of the 23 communities assist the AAA in assessing elder needs in the region, recommending funding priorities, and recommending sub-grantee funding awards to the Planning Council. The support and cooperation of the Delegates and Alternates and their respective communities is acknowledged with gratitude by the Old Colony Planning Council Area Agency on Aging. The OCPC-AAA also wishes to extend sincere thanks to Committee Chairman Jim Taylor of Duxbury for his leadership during the past fiscal year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Del Kent, Delegate
Marie Healey, Alternate

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

The September 1998 Special Town Meeting voted to establish the Municipal Building Committee. The powers and duties of this committee are to serve as a building committee for all school and government building projects valued at $50,000 or more, including changes to existing buildings and all new buildings; to conduct inspections of all school and government buildings and to assist the DPW Director with the preparation of annual and 5-year capital improvement and maintenance plans.

2009 was a busy and productive year for the Municipal Building Committee. The Committee reorganized and welcomed two new members, Mike Belanger & Dennis Kenny. Ralph Vatalaro was appointed Chairman and Dennis Kenny as Vice Chairman. The committee maintained a regular once-monthly meeting schedule. Meetings were held at 5:30 p.m. in the OAHS Administration Conference Room. The Committee is grateful for and has benefited greatly from the services of a permanent secretary, Karen Gilbride-Raynard. Throughout the year, the Committee devoted most of its time to the ongoing construction/renovation projects at the OAHS and EMS. The year saw the substantial completion of both the OA High School Project and the Easton Middle School Project with emphasis on punch list completion. The Committee worked diligently with the Construction Manager and Contractor to ensure the 2 projects were completed within budget and on schedule.

Throughout the year, in connection with these major construction projects, the Committee met and conferred with scores of town officials, various boards and committees and individual citizens. Frequent communication with the newly formed Massachusetts School Building Assistance Bureau has favored the construction projects and benefited the town.

During 2009, the Committee continued to work closely with the then Assistant Superintendent of Schools, and more recently the Superintendent of Schools, Mike Green, and DPW Director, Wayne Southworth, on an ongoing basis to develop capital improvement and maintenance plans for all town buildings.

In 2010, the Committee will continue to fulfill its mission to oversee the completion of the school construction projects and looks forward to participating in other initiatives to improve school and other town buildings. The Committee will continue to meet as needed and agendas will be posted at Town Hall. Visitors are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph J Vatalaro, III, Chairman
Mike Belanger
Marc Brockman
Ken Carlson
Wally Fulcher
Dennis Kenny, Vice Chairman
Jane Martin

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMES FREE LIBRARY – EASTON'S PUBLIC LIBRARY

Where the Community Connects

	Circulation	Increase from Prior Year	Percent Increase
2007	109,334	6,224	6%
2008	123,753	14,419	13%
2009	157,084	33,331	27%

This was a true banner year for the library marked by a return to the beautifully renovated H.H. Richardson building after two years at Frothingham Hall. *(See front of Annual Report for information on the library and Queset Garden renovations).*

Circulation growth, the number of items checked out, is a good measure of library use and popularity and this year again saw a startling increase. Other important and interesting statistics are that 11,006 people or 47% of Easton's population has a library card; there were 1,266 new registrations, a 13% increase. More than 565 wonderful programs attracted 7,074 attendees, 106% more than the previous year. With 8,111 recorded sessions, computer use increased by 95% and computer tutors offered 184 one-on-one training sessions. The entire staff is responsible for these successful results and each one of them is an asset to the community.

With increasing job loss and a tight economy nationwide users turned to libraries – the peoples' universities – for information, training materials, and all kinds of enrichment. Yet, many stories surfaced about library budget cuts and closings. Despite a tough financial environment for Easton as well, we were pleased to receive adequate town support for state certification. This meant that Easton residents could borrow from more than 70 libraries in the SAILS system and 270 libraries statewide through the Virtual Catalog. Although we have a collection of 80,000 well-chosen items, we also borrow 26,000 books a year for Easton residents from other libraries, about 17% of total circulation. Loss of certification in Massachusetts would result in loss of borrowing privileges from all these libraries.

Some of the many programs offered were a Dutch-oven cooking demonstration by library staff member and spouse Michelle and John Duprey and six walking tours of Easton led by Ed Hands, Easton Historical Commission member and former teacher at Oliver Ames High School. The *Trick or Treat Magic Show*, held at Oakes Ames Hall, brought in about 200 Halloween revelers. The children had a great transatlantic discussion of *Skulduggery Pleasant* with author Derek Landy, from his book tour in Liverpool! Many of these events are supported by the Stonehill Enrichment Fund.

"Ms. Cathie," our indefatigable children's librarian, Cathie Coyne, initiated an outreach program for Easton's elementary schools. She visited 47 classrooms, told stories, and gave out 400 new library cards. The kids were very excited and have since come into the library in droves.

Summer reading programs expanded as well. About 290 children aged 1-11 read 325,000 pages; 36 teens read 95,000 pages. Our very first adult program, developed by Adult Services Librarian, Karen Gabbert Armand, enticed readers to submit 140 book reviews that became entries in a raffle. North Easton Savings Bank offered gift certificates and savings bonds to children and adults for reaching reading goals. Other incentives were donated by Pires Hardware, Soups-on-Center, Hilliards House of Candy, and Americas Best Defense.

Book clubs and storytimes flourished. We added a new group for 'tweens," students in grades 4 – 6 and an on-site discussion for residents of Elise Circle. Other monthly groups include the children's chapter book club and two more adult sessions. Weekly storytimes are offered five times a week for babies through age 6 and a Pajama Storytime for ages 3 and up is held monthly.

The library is grateful for donations from many residents and institutions such as Harbor One Savings Bank, Folan Roofing and Construction, and Smith Buckley Hunt Insurance. Grants this year were from Verizon for a teen program, Target Stores for a children's literacy program, the Easton Cultural Council for cultural programs, and from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners for an "On the Same Page" project. Through this grant's activities we will encourage all residents to read and discuss two books about the importance of nature in our lives: *Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder*, by Richard Louv, and *A Walk in the Woods*, by Bill Bryson. Our grant from Community Preservation Act funds for Queset Garden is described in the front of the Annual Report. Uma Hiremath, assistant library director, is commended for overseeing these successful grant applications.

The Friends of the Library continued to enrich community life by running the Cottage Bookstore Café every Saturday from March to June at the library's annex at 56 Main Street. They also hosted a Chocolate and Wine Tasting gala event at Queset House. Both these activities were well-attended and the Friends were able to raise enough money to continue to support and expand the free museum pass program.

With funding from the Friends and the Lions Club, 600 people this year borrowed passes for free or reduced-entry to area museums. We now offer 12 passes – including the New England Aquarium, the Institute of Contemporary Art, and USS Massachusetts Battleship Cove, and the Museum of Science.

Thanks are always due to the library's Board of Directors for their energy and support – the staff and the community are fortunate to have this dedicated group. This year Stephen Merlin became Vice President and both he and Marcia Connors were reappointed as town delegates.

We are also thankful to all town officials for their support of library operations especially during our time at Frothingham Hall and wish the Council on Aging and the Recreation Department good luck in their new home.

Respectfully submitted,
Madeline Miele Holt, Executive Director

Library Information
Hours: Monday-Thursday 10-8; Friday and Saturday 10-5. Closed on Saturdays July through Labor Day. Closed on all major national holidays.
Tel: 508-238-2000 E-mail: info@amesfreelibrary.org *Website*: www.amesfreelibrary.org

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMES TRUST FUND

Following is a summary of the Ames Trust Funds held for the benefit of the schools and highways of the Town of Easton as of December 31, 2009. The total amount distributed by all three funds for 2009 was 1.9% less than the total amount paid for 2008. This was much better than what was thought would be the case in 2009 as this letter was written in January, 2009. Dividend income from common stocks held in the portfolios accounted for about thirty-four percent of the total income earned with the balance coming from interest income earned on fixed income securities and certificates of deposit. This mix of income was very different from that of 2008 when nearly three-fourths was earned from dividends. This dramatic difference was the result of a change in investment strategy by our investment advisors who recommended to the Trustees a switch in emphasis from equities to bonds and other fixed income instruments thought to be more likely to produce a satisfactory level of income and to contain less market risk given the capital markets choices available for 2009.

Once again, as this report is written, there is a great deal of uncertainty in world capital markets and the U. S. dollar is considerably weaker than it was at this time last year. It is not possible to predict with any hope of accuracy what world capital markets will be like in 2010. As always, The Trustees will continue to work closely with investment advisors to assure that portfolio quality remains high and that income available for distribution is as high as prudent management permits.

	Book Value	12/31/09 Market Value	2009 Income Paid to Town
Highways Fund	$5,079,848.00	$5,337,243.84	$181,135.60
Highways Perm. Fund	$242,927.58	$219,770.09	$8,145.54
Schools Fund	$4,498,025.57	$4,632,655.95	$147,616.62

Very truly yours,

James S. Thomas, Trustee

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE OAKES AMES MEMORIAL HALL ASSOCIATION

www.oakesameshall.org

Income			
	Donors	6,650.00	
	Rental Income	7,125.00	
	Investment	15,000.00	
	Total income		$28,775.00
Operating Expenses			
Salaries/ Fees:	Rental agent	3,000.00	
	Custodian	1,810.00	
		$4,810.00	
Utilities:	Heating Oil	5,849.84	
	NationalGrid	318.50	
	Bay State Gas	572.41	
	Town of Easton- Water	199.34	
	Waste Management	741.34	
	Verizon	440.00	
		8,121.43	
Fire Safety:	Town of Easton - fees	626.00	
	Sprinkler inspection	1,400.00	
	Inspect fire extinguishers	269.75	
	Alarm repairs	3,345.00	
		5,640.75	
Insurance:	Liability and Worker's Comp.	823.00	
Miscellaneous:	Grounds keeping	600.00	
	Furnace repairs/maintenance	505.00	
	First Floor Stage repair	600.00	
	Plumbing repairs	240.00	
	Piano Tuning	200.00	
	Miscellaneous	500.00	500.00
		2,645.00	
	Total operating expenses		$ 24,685.18
	Net operating profit (loss)		
Capital Projects			
	Web Site	1,125.00	
	Legal Settlement	3,000.00	
	New Refrigerator (partial donation)	62.50	
	Total Capital Expenditures		$4,187.50
	Total Expense		$28,872.68
	Net		<$97.68>

Respectfully submitted,
Frederick L. Ames, President

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL

The calendar year 2009 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project and its services to the cities and towns of Bristol County. The Project was established in 1958 as a result of numerous human and horse cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis. Over the years, the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project has greatly reduced the exposure to this arbovirus and also the newly introduced West Nile virus.

Since the 1958 formation much has changed. New biological larvicides have been developed and used to suppress mosquito emergence. The Project has acquired new GPS guidance systems for the trucks and GIS mapping capabilities. Newer environmentally sensitive adulticides have been developed and adopted by the Project. During water management projects, low ground pressure machines are used to reduce secondary impacts to the environment. Increased mosquito surveillance, the cornerstone of Integrated Pest Management, continues every summer. The addition of molecular techniques by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health increased sensitivity of virus isolations and decreased turn around time between collections and results.

For the past 6 years, Bristol County Mosquito Control Project reported the most EEE isolations from mosquitoes in Massachusetts. During the 2009 mosquito season, over 16,000 mosquitoes were collected. There were 23 isolations of EEE with 3 collections from human biting mosquitoes and no human or horse cases reported for the County. EEE was active in our County from July 16th till October5th. We had 9 mosquito isolates of WNV in the County with no reported human or horse cases. A total of 411.2 square miles (263,168 acres) were at a Moderate/High risk for EEE and WNV in 2009. To date the towns of Easton, Raynham, Freetown, Acushnet, Fairhaven and New Bedford are in the High-risk category for EEE. The towns of Taunton, Berkley, Westport and Dartmouth are in the Moderate-risk category for EEE. To date the towns of Fall River, Dartmouth and New Bedford are in the Moderate-risk category for WNV. In 2002, the Project received 3,672-spray request from residents within the County, in 2009 we received 15,964 requests.

The Bristol County Mosquito Control Project works year-round in its efforts to reduce mosquito breeding sites and adult mosquito populations. The Project uses several different measures of control in its never-ending fight against mosquitoes.

Spring and Summer Larviciding - To reduce the emergence of adult mosquitoes in areas where mosquito larvae are present.

Catch Basin Treatment - To stop mosquito emergence from rain-filled catch basins and storm drains.
Mosquito Surveillance Program - To monitor mosquito populations as to their type and number - a program necessary in encephalitis surveillance. Light trapping of mosquitoes is also useful to determine what areas have nuisance populations of mosquitoes.

Water Management - A year round endeavor to clean and maintain mosquito drainage ditches in areas to reduce standing water conducive to mosquito larvae.

Public Outreach: - Providing important information to the residents of the county with respect to personal protection against mosquito bites, mosquito breeding prevention on one's property and mosquito data.

It is the policy of the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project to use pesticides that are environmentally sensitive so that they do not negatively impact people or the environment. We use as many of the biological insecticides as are practical with the environmental conditions present in the New England area.

All of our spray equipment is calibrated periodically in order to insure that dosage rates remain at legal levels but are adequate to reduce mosquito populations. The operators of our spray equipment are state licensed pesticide applicators that are required to attend classes on pesticide safety on a yearly basis.

During the time period January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009 the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project:

- Sprayed over 11,614.3 acres
- Treated 79 acres in 38 locations with *B.t.i.* for mosquito larvae
- Received 979 requests for spraying
- Cleared and reclaimed 1,565 feet of brush
- 350 feet of tractor work
- Treated 809 catch basins

I would like to thank the town officials and the people of Easton for their continued support and cooperation and look forward to serving them in the coming year. Should anyone have a question as to what might be done to relieve a mosquito problem in their area, whether it is water management work, treatment of a breeding site, or just having an area checked, please feel free to call our office.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne N. Andrews, Superintendent
December 31, 2009

Bristol County Mosquito Control Commissioners:

Arthur F. Tobin, Chairman
Gregory D. Dorrance
Joseph Barile
Christine A. Fagan
Robert F. Davis

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CULTURAL COUNCIL

The purpose of the Easton Cultural Council (ECC) is to award grants based on an allocation received annually from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The goal is supporting public programs that promote education, diversity, excellence in and access to the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences. Its mission is to directly affect the residents of Easton, to achieve the greatest community benefit, and to cultivate the arts through participation and appreciation. The ECC endeavors to make cultural opportunities accessible to all segments of the population, including but not limited to, all racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, veterans, women and children. We are pleased to say that we were able to fund several programs that will greatly enrich the lives of Easton townspeople of all ages and backgrounds.

This past granting cycle we had five active members: Chair Heidi Harlfinger; Kit Minsky; Mary Goulart; Bill Bradley, and Christine Junge.

The Council, due to a continued decline in state revenues due to the recession, received $5,240 in grant funding - a reduction of $1,460 from the prior year. During October of 2009, the Council received thirty-four applications, requesting funding totaling $20,175. After a series of meetings and deliberations, including interviews with several of the applicants, we voted in December 2009 to approve twenty-five of those applications, granting a total of $5,733 for programs or performances in 2008/09. Additionally, the Cultural Council presented and received state approval for its own event, a Lantern Walk, scheduled to take place in May 2010. At the Annual NRT Harvest Fair in October 2009, the Council had a poetry activity for children and did some publicity for the 2010 Lantern Walk.

The Easton Cultural Council welcomes new members. If interested in becoming a member of the Council, please contact Kit Minsky for information at 508-230-0501 or email: kminsky@easton.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Harlfinger, Chair

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SERVICES GROUP

The Southeastern Regional Services Group (SERSG) was initiated in 1993 with a mission "to serve as a catalyst and implementer for member communities that desire to act jointly to solve governmental problems or to deliver services to their citizens more effectively or efficiently."

The nineteen member communities of SERSG benefit from shared administrative services provided by a regional administrator. Lara Thomas has served as regional administrator of SERSG since 2004. SERSG's work is supported by dues from the member communities, and dues have remained at the same level since 2003. Middleborough is SERSG's newest member, joining in 2009.

Annual procurements designed to save municipalities time and money are a major part of SERSG's services. Cooperative procurements for Paper, Office Supplies and DPW Supplies and Water and Sewer Treatment Chemicals were held in the spring of 2009 and for DPW Services in the fall of 2009.

Easton was able to realize savings of more than $350,000 off list prices for office supplies for Fiscal Year 2009 through the SERSG Office Supplies and Paper Contracts.

Thousands of dollars in additional savings per year result from the SERSG DPW procurements. Some savings examples are that winter hot mix is just $88 per ton under the SERSG contract while the state contract price is $99 per ton. For washed sand for ice and snow removal, Easton pays $12.37 per ton while the state contract price is $14.91 per ton. The Town of Middleborough elected to join SERSG when they learned the SERSG prices for water and sewer treatment chemicals would save the town $60,000.

During 2009, Ms. Thomas held a training for on-site contacts for Drug & Alcohol Testing at which the new vendor provided an overview on the process for testing. She also assisted representatives from the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District as they were interested in developing their own cooperative purchasing initiative. A review of tax-exempt status by the IRS was successfully undergone by SERSG Service Corp in the late summer. In the fall, Ms. Thomas was able to initiate electronic distribution for all Invitations for Bids for the DPW Services procurement resulting in significant cost savings. Finally, a SERSG website (www.sersg.org) was developed and launched in the fall. The site will continue to be developed and hopefully provide even more opportunities for collaboration among member communities in the future.

Finally, monthly meetings of the Board of Directors and the Highway Superintendents continued to provide valuable opportunities for representatives from member communities to share concerns and receive ideas and feedback about a wide variety of issues affecting municipalities.

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE SPECIAL ACT CHARTER COMMITTEE

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TOWN OF EASTON SPECIAL ACT CHARTER COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 31, 2009

The Special Act Charter Committee (Committee) was created by the Board of Selectmen in mid 2008. Its task was not to decide on alternative forms of government that might be available to the town but rather to assume that the preferred form of government would be a town manager/town council system as recommended by the prior Government Study Committee. Over the last 18 months, the Committee approached this rather daunting project in a deliberate and methodical manner attempting to be transparent in process and welcoming citizen input at every phase.

During this process, the Committee held 18 meetings, conducted 3 public hearings, made a preliminary presentation before the May 2009 annual Town Meeting, met with the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee, issued press releases that were printed in the Easton Journal, Brockton Enterprise and Boston Globe, conducted interviews with 15 current and former Selectmen and 3 current or past Town Administrators, spoke with municipal government experts at the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Housing and Community Development, reviewed 10 charters from other Massachusetts municipal governments with similar structures and 2 charters recommended by the National Civic League, and interviewed numerous officials from other towns that either have either switched to town manager/town council or have committees studying the concept.

Most importantly, we heard from the citizens of Easton by email, letter and in person. Town officials and employees, volunteer board and commission members and just the average citizen made it abundantly clear to us that while they all understood the need for more efficient town government, they were also reluctant to do away with the right for a person to speak his/her mind at open Town Meeting (TM) unless an alternative format is presented for this vital purpose. Our Committee heard this loudly and clearly and is recommending a number of different ways for citizen voices to be heard and still be part of the government and legislative process. These include recall, referendum, initiative petition and the right of some public participation at Town Council meetings.

We have said throughout this process that much of the process is judgment and not right or wrong. We have made our best efforts to exercise our collective judgment fairly and wisely and are prepared to explain the rationale for any choices that we have recommended. We have tried to take the existing Charter and use it as the basis for our new Charter making the needed changes to reflect our task.

Major highlights of our recommendations include:

1. A nine person Town Council, 6 elected by precinct (1 for each existing precinct) and 3 elected town wide or at large.
2. 4 year staggered terms instead of the current 2 year terms. (Precinct council at 1 election and at large at the next.)
3. A strong Town Manager with personnel and budget authority (similar to the current Town Administrator)
4. Retention of the Finance Committee as a 5 person board appointed by the Town Council to continue to give advice on town finances
5. The right of citizen participation at each Town Council meeting subject to preprinted rules for the orderly conducting of Council business.

6. The right to recall elected officials.

7. The right of both referendum and initiative petition.

8. Open Council meetings including prepublication of any proposed bylaw.

9. Open budgetary process including public hearings on the annual budget.

How and when this form of government is to be implemented is determined by whether the Board of Selectmen chooses to submit this before TM. If the proposal is successful there then a Special Act must be filed and approved by the State Legislature. Finally a town wide vote is usually required. We hope everyone will keep an open mind and if called upon to vote on the merits of this proposal that each votes in the best interests of our town. Although sometimes stressful, we enjoyed the opportunity to serve our town in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Carvin
Alex Maller (resigned April 2009 to move out of state)
Steve Merlin, Chair

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DATA PROCESSING DEPARTMENT

The Town of Easton Data Processing Department provides computer and technical support and service for the Easton Town Offices, the Department of Public Works, the Water Division, the Police and Fire Departments and the School Business Office. Data Processing is responsible for 19 servers, 100 desktop computers and 36 notebook computers. All sites are connected with Town owned 1GB fiber optic lines except Fire Station #2 which is connected using Cisco routers through a Verizon Point-to-Point T1. All of the town departments access the Internet thru a single Comcast cable modem provided by Comcast Business Services.

The process of virtualizing servers at the Town Offices commenced this fiscal year. The Town now has 8 servers which are virtual and no longer require dedicated hardware. This is a cost saving measure as dedicated hardware would have needed to be replaced on a regular schedule. Additionally, unplugging all this hardware has resulted in a noticeable decrease in the electrical usage at the Town Offices. Performance of these new virtual servers has given the town the ability to share and maximize memory and processor usage better than the physical servers.

Another major project this past year has been the migration of our financial system. For many years the Town of Easton utilized a custom program which was written with Unisys Business Information Server. Though this program had served us well over the years, the technology did not meet our needs and a jump to the 21st century financial system was necessary. We are now using an integrated municipal application from a company known as SoftRight out of Westford, Massachusetts. The Town went live with the SoftRight Payroll application On January 1 of 2009. Since that time we have migrated almost all of our other applications including General Ledger, Budget, Accounts Payable & Purchasing, Fixed Assets, Payroll & Personnel, Treasury Receipts, Collector's Receivables, Tax Title, and Trash Billing. We are currently working on migrating the Water Billing process.

Michael Deltano, Information Systems Manager

2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON GREEN COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

In 2009 the Easton Green Communities Committee was established by the Easton Board of Selectmen. In July the Committee embarked on its mission "to help educate the Town of Easton on clean energy options and measures that can be implemented to reduce energy use, conserve resources and reduce emissions; to assist in the development of cost effective projects on municipal facilities to reduce energy and resource use and develop renewable energy resources; and to promote awareness of new technologies and their potential impact on energy use and resource conservation".

On July 30th, 2009 the seven member Committee held its first meeting. At this time the Committee decided to hold meetings on a monthly basis. Elections were held during the initial meeting when I received the honor of being elected as Chair, and Easton resident member Andrea Waldorf was elected as Clerk. A discussion of informal roles of other members resulted in resident Wendy Whitty being chosen as media coordinator, and Oliver Ames High School student Kathleen Loftus being selected to be the student liaison for the Committee. Original members also include Easton resident Stephen Drown. Resignations during the fall resulted in two member positions being temporarily left vacant. Two new members were chosen to fill the vacancies in December these being Board of Selectmen appointee Ellen Barlow and School Board Committee appointee Colleen Less. The Committee welcomes its new members.

Without delay members began in their efforts to publicize the Committee and its mission via a variety of media. Following Committee review member Wendy Whitty submitted a press release to the Brockton Enterprise newspaper stating the Committee's charge which was included in the paper's October issue. Through the coordinated efforts of members Andrea Waldorf and Wendy Whitty "52 Green Tips" were submitted to Easton's community cable station for future weekly broadcast. With the help of Easton's Citizen/Business Advocate, Katherine Minski, the Town's website includes the Green Communities Committee web page on which is posted the Committee's agendas and minutes. As the member of staff responsible for creating and updating the Easton Department of Public Works website I created the "Green Page" with links to the Green Communities Committee page, "Green at Home Page", as well as other relevant informational resources. The Committee plans to expand its "green" message beyond print, television, and web media through community outreach events and seminars.

After application documents were submitted in August Easton was awarded Planning Assistance in September through the Massachusetts Green Communities Division of the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER). This program, amounting to approximately $11,650 in assistance per community, helps towns fulfill the necessary criteria to achieve a Green Community designation as specified by the Massachusetts Green Communities Division. Once achieved, this designation offers communities future grant funding opportunities. Easton's Green Communities Committee members have been forwarded information sent by the Planning Assistance Team assigned to Easton on subjects relating to the states Green Communities program. In March of 2010 Easton will receive direct assistance from Blue Wave Strategies that will include two presentations to Town officials which the Committee looks forward to taking part in.

The Committee has been kept current with Easton's ongoing participation in the Massachusetts DOER Energy Audit Program (EAP) through which energy audits funded by the DOER were performed on each of Easton's municipal and school buildings. These audits have since lead to energy efficiency project incentives saving the Town 70% of the costs of lighting upgrades through National Grid programs. Since its first meeting the Committee has reviewed and discussed energy audit information and municipal building energy usage and will continue to do so. The Committee's charge centers on the issues of energy consumption, conservation, and efficiency particularly as these relate to cost effective projects and the development of an energy baseline and plan which are required for a town to qualify for a Massachusetts Green Community designation and related grant funding.

During fall meetings the Committee discussed applying available Clean Energy Choice grant funds from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC) to perform a community wide renewable energy outreach program. The Clean Energy Choice Program application was submitted during November. In December the Town received a response from the MTC stating that the program proposal had been accepted and $7981.80 was made available to the Town for its implementation. This program will support the distribution of informational materials on clean energy to residents (flyers, etc.), educational materials on clean energy to the Easton schools and libraries (science kits and books), and community awareness of clean energy through a public demonstration of solar power. The Committee will play a vital role in the successful execution of Easton's Clean Energy Choice Program as clean energy education is a major piece of the Committees mission.

As the Green Communities Committee keeps abreast of Easton's "green" accomplishments as well as the programs in which the Town continues to participate the Committee will continue to acquire and distribute knowledge on the topics significant to its mission. Going forward the Committee will work to discover additional opportunities for the Town including grants, community outreach events, educational resources, energy efficiency incentive programs, clean energy options, and other future avenues by which those who work in Easton and those who reside here can collectively build a green community.

I wish to thank each of the Committee members: Ellen Barlow of the Board of Selectman, Colleen Less of the Easton School Committee, and the at-large members Easton residents Stephen Drown, Andrea Waldorf, and Wendy Whitty, for your efforts thus far. Your concern for these issues is clear; your eagerness to address these matters coupled with your ideas on how to do so will enable the Committee to succeed in its mission. I very much look forward to working with you all throughout 2010 in this important work.

Respectfully submitted,

Adrienne Marie Edwards
Chair of the Easton Green Communities Committee

Annual Report 2009

Office of the Town Clerk
508-230-0530
Fax 508-230-0539
www.easton.ma.us

Jeremy P Gillis, Town Clerk
Marie Graca, Assistant Town Clerk
Lucia Longhurst, Principal Clerk

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK MISSION STATEMENT:

To facilitate the efforts of Easton residents, visitors and employees to access public information in an efficient, transparent and timely manner, To enable voters to avail themselves of the democratic process, to provide high quality service in a courteous and professional manner, to strive to improve both the Office and its employees through habitual innovation and education, to preserve and promote the history of the Town through its historical documents and artifacts, and to comply with Federal, State and Local statutes.

General Powers and Duties

The Easton Town Clerk is appointed by the Town Administrator. He holds the rank of department head. State law provides that the Town Clerk is the official keeper of the Town Seal and the Town's Oath Book. He and both members of his staff are Notaries Public and have the authority to notarize documents signed in their presence. The Town Clerk serves as the custodian of Town records and official documents. He is responsible for the maintenance, preservation and disposition of all Town records. He is required by state law to ensure that Town records are readily available for public inspection.

Registrar of Vital Records and Statistics

The Town Clerk also acts as the Town Registrar of Vital Records and Statistics. He accepts for filing and maintains records of all births, deaths and marriages that occur in Easton. The Town Clerk is authorized to issue certified copies of birth, death and marriage records, and administers adoption and record-change depositions. There is no fee for filing a vital record; however there is a fee for obtaining a certified copy of a vital record. The fee is $15.00 for the first copy and $5.00 for each additional copy (if requested when obtaining first copy). Anyone may inspect vital records *(except out of wedlock birth records may be inspected only by those individuals named on the record*) for the cost of retrieval.

Marriage Licenses

The Town Clerk issues marriage licenses. Persons wishing to obtain a license must file their intentions with the Town Clerk in person (*except for in cases where one person is in the military or incarcerated*) at least three days before the ceremony. The cost of a License in Easton is **$40.00**. The license is valid for sixty days, and may be used for a ceremony conducted in any Massachusetts city or town. The member of the clergy or Justice of the Peace who performs the ceremony must sign the license and return it to the city or town where it was issued.

DBA Certificates

All fictitious name certificates for businesses (commonly known as "doing business as" or "dba" certificates) are filed with the Town Clerk. The dba files allow consumers to identify and locate the proprietor of a business which goes by a name other than that of the proprietor. The filing of the dba certificate also serves notice that the filer claims exclusive use of the name contained in the certificate. Easton maintains a database of dba information which includes records for the proceeding five years. Once filed a certificate is valid for four years. The fee for filing is **$50.00**.

Hunting and Fishing Licenses

The Town Clerk serves as an agent for state gaming and fishing licenses. The licenses issued by the Easton Town Clerk are valid throughout the state.

Dog Licenses

All dog owners in the Town must obtain a license for their dog(s) by the 1st of May annually. A license will be issued only if the owner has evidence of a rabies vaccination which is valid as of the date of issuance. The fee for a dog license is **$10.00** for a spayed or neutered dog, **$15.00** otherwise. A Late Fee of **$5.00 per month** is added if the dog is not licensed by April 30 or within 60 days of obtaining the dog(s). Owners of unlicensed dogs are also subject to violation of Dog Control By-Law fees. If you have four or more dogs, you must obtain a kennel license from the Town Clerk. You also have to receive permission from the Easton Zoning Board of Appeals. The Zoning Board of Appeals can be reached at (508) 230-3413.

Town Archivist

Easton is a Town with a long and rich history which is preserved in records contained in the Town Archives. State law requires the Archivist to establish records management procedures for the retention, storage and retrieval of Town administrative and legislative records, as well as respond to requests for public information. The Archivist is responsible for creating indices and employing technologies such as microfilm and microfiche which allow for prompt retrieval of materials in the Town's archival collection. The Archivist also must establish procedures to ensure the secure preservation of the records, such as a climate-controlled vault built and maintained in accordance with state standards.

Passport Applications

The Town Clerk is now accepting U.S. passport applications. The hours to submit passport applications are:

Monday	9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Tuesdays thru Thursdays	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Fridays	9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

2009 VITAL STATISTICS RECORDED IN EASTON
RECEIVED THRU JANUARY , 2010

BIRTHS

Males	88
Females	90
	178

Single Births	178
Sets of Twins	6
Triplets	0
Total Children	**184**

MARRIAGES

Marriages in Easton	22	
Marriages Out of Easton	36	
Total Marriages Recorded	**58**	**0**

RESIDENCE OF PARTY A & PARTY B

Both Residents of Easton	41
One Easton, One Other MA Town	3
One Easton, One Out of State	4
Both Out of State	0
Both Out of Town	9
One Out of Town, One Out of State	1
	58

DEATHS

Residents who died in Easton	135
Residents who died out of Easton	32
Non-Residents who died in Easton	
Total	**167**

TYPE OF FACILITY:

Hospital	48
Nursing Home	70
Residence	43
Other	6
Total	**167**

BY AGE & GENDER

Ages	Female	Male	Total
0-19	0	0	
20-49	3	5	
50-59	5	6	
60-69	8	9	
70-79	22	20	
80-89	34	32	
90-99	18	4	
100+(104)	1	0	
Total	**91**	**76**	**167**

Respectfully submitted,
Jeremy P. Gillis
Town Clerk

HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES ISSUED JANUARY 2008 TO DECEMBER 2008

	License Class Issued		Fees	Total
F1	RESIDENT FISHING		$ 22.50	$ -
F2	RESIDENT FISHING MINOR		$ 6.50	$ -
F3	FISHING LICENCE 65-69		$ 10.75	$ -
T3	RESIDENT TRAPPING, AGE 65-69		$ 15.25	$ -
	Total Fishing Licenses	**0**	**$ 55.00**	**$ -**
H1	RESIDENT CITIZEN HUNTING		$ 22.50	$ -
H8	RESIDENT CITIZEN MINOR HUNTING		$ 6.50	$ -
S1	RESIDENT SPORTING		$ 40.00	$ -
S2	RESIDENT SPORTING 65-69		$ 20.00	$ -
	Total Sporting Licenses	**0**	**$ 89.00**	**$ -**
M1	ARCHERY STAMP		$ 5.10	$ -
M2	WATERFOWL STAMP		$ 5.00	$ -
M3	PRIMITIVE FIREARMS STAMP		$ 5.10	$ -
W1	WILD.CONSER. STAMP (Resident)		$ 5.00	$ -
	Total Stamps Issued	**0**	**$ 20.20**	**$ -**

Total Licenses Issued	**0**	**$ 144.00**	**$ -**
Total Licenses and Stamps Issued	**0**	**$ 164.20**	**$ -**
Sporting Llicense Fees		$ 1.00	$ -
Sporting License Fees		$ 0.50	$ -
Stamp Fees		$ 0.10	$ -
Stamp Fees		$ 0.25	$ -
Total Fees	**0**		**$ -**
License Fees Deducted		$ 0.50	$ -
Waterfowl Stamp Fees Deducted		$ 0.25	$ -
Archery Stamp Fees Deducted		$ 0.10	$ -
Primitive Fire Arms Fees		$ 0.10	$ -
Total Fees Deducted License & Stamps	0		**$ -**
Additional Fees Paid to Town of Easton			$ -
Total Fees Deducted			**$ -**
Total PAID TO Fisheries & Wildlife			$ -

Respectfully submited
Jeremy P. Gillis
Town Clerk

DOG LICENSES ISSUED JANUARY 2009 TO DECEMBER 2009

# issued	License	Fee	Total
1119	Neutered	$10.00	$11,190.00
201	Males	$15.00	$3,015.00
1229	Spayed Females	$10.00	$12,290.00
95	Females	$15.00	$1,425.00
8	Kennel License	$50.00	$400.00
8	Animal Control	$25.00	$200.00
	Total Licenses		$28,520.00
90	Late Fees & violations	$ 25.00	$2,250.00
21	Pick-up Impound	$ 30.00	$630.00
3	Misc Dogs & Dup tags.	$ 3.00	$9.00
2774	**Collected**		**$31,409.00**

Respectfully submitted

Jeremy P. Gillis
Town Clerk

Town Clerks fees issued January 2009 to December 2009

	Fees		
Birth	$ 15.00	438	$ 6,562.00
Births	$ 5.00	108	$ 540.00
Deaths	$ 15.00	162	$ 2,435.00
Deaths	$ 5.00	409	$ 2,045.00
Marriage	$ 15.00	125	$ 1,870.00
Marriges	$ 5.00	24	$ 120.00
Death Certificate Correction	$50.00	3	$ 150.00
Vitals Search (open)			$ 25.00
Doctor Registration	$ 50.00	19	$ 950.00
Marriage Intentions	$ 40.00	99	$ 3,960.00
Business Certificate	$ 50.00	303	$ 15,150.00
Business Cert/Change	$ 25.00	10	$ 265.00
Business Disc	$ 25.00	50	$ 1,260.00
Business Certificate Certified Copy	$ 10.00		$ -
Police Fines (Marijuana)	$ 100.00	5	$ 500.00
Storage Permits (gas)			$ 4,401.00
Street Listings	$ 10.00		$ 355.00
Computer Copies	$ 0.50	179	$ 89.50
Copies	$ 0.20	21	$ 4.20
Copy Disks	$ 25.00	9	$ 225.00
Certified Copy (open)			$ 26.00
Raffle Permit(open)			$ 120.00
Declaration Homestead	$ 15.00		
Fish Holders	$ 0.25	14	$ 3.50
Pole Location	$ 50.00	3	$ 150.00
Passport	$ 25.00	831	$ 20,775.00
Passport Pictures	$ 10.00	379	$ 3,790.00
Postage			$ 151.95
Total Town Clerk Fees			**$ 65,923.15**
Sporting Lic. Fees	$ 1.00	163	$ 163.00
Sporting fees	$ 0.50	159	$ 79.50
Sporting fees	$ 0.10	65	$ 6.50
Sporting fees	$ 0.25	20	$ 5.00
Total All Fees			**$ 66,177.15**

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy P. Gillis
Town Clerk

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Town of Easton
Warrant for Annual Town Election
April 28, 2009

Bristol, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in elections to vote at:

Precincts 1, 2, 4 - Oliver Ames High School Gymnasium, Lothrop Street
Precincts 3 & 6 – Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Foundry Street
Precinct 5 – Easton Baptist Church, 195 Bay Road

On TUESDAY, THE TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF APRIL, 2009, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes on one ballot for the following officers:

Two Selectmen for a term of three years;
One Assessor for a term of three years;
One School Committee member for a term of three years;
One Board of Health member for a term of three years;
Three Finance Committee members for terms of three years;
One Town Moderator for a term of three years

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 6th day of April, 2009;

SELECTMEN OF EASTON

Easton, Mass.
By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

A true copy. Attest: ________________________, Town Clerk of Easton
Jeremy Paul Gillis

OFFICE							
SELECTMAN	CORONA	HAEDERLE	BLANKS	WRITE IN	TOTAL		
Precinct 1	147	127	142	8	424		
Precinct 2	281	245	203	15	424		
Precinct 3	113	115	98	4	424		
Precinct 4	242	232	186	10	424		
Precinct 5	269	226	201	6	424		
Precinct 6	157	141	110	2	424		
TOTAL	1209	1086	940	45	424		
ASSESSOR	SHAUN FITZGERALD	BLANKS	WRITE IN	TOTAL			
Precinct 1	146	66	0	212			
Precinct 2	248	120	4	212			
Precinct 3	122	42	1	212			
Precinct 4	227	107	1	212			
Precinct 5	233	118	0	212			
Precinct 6	139	65	1	212			
TOTAL	1115	518	7	212			
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	BRANAGAN	LESS	BLANKS	WRITE IN	TOTAL		
Precinct 1	125	86	0	1	212		
Precinct 2	164	198	10	0	212		
Precinct 3	82	79	4	0	212		
Precinct 4	164	161	9	1	212		
Precinct 5	133	215	2	1	212		
Precinct 6	62	137	6	0	212		
TOTAL	730	876	31	3	212		
BOARD OF HEALTH	KLIGLER	Blanks	Write Ins	Total			
Precinct 1	143	68	1	212			
Precinct 2	247	121	4	212			
Precinct 3	117	46	2	212			
Precinct 4	219	115	1	212			
Precinct 5	226	124	1	212			
Precinct 6	137	68	0	212			
TOTAL	1089	542	9	212			
FINANCE COMMITTEE	FERRARA	NOONAN			BLANKS	WRITE IN	TOTAL
Precinct 1	129	126			374	7	381
Precinct 2	229	239			633	15	381
Precinct 3	101	117			272	5	381
Precinct 4	195	199			609	2	381

Precinct 5	208	208			632	5	381
Precinct 6	132	126			355	2	381
TOTAL	994	1015			2875	36	381

MODERATOR	DAILEY	GALAS	BLANKS	WRITE IN	TOTAL
Precinct 1	55	137	20	0	212
Precinct 2	89	260	22	1	212
Precinct 3	43	112	10	0	212
Precinct 4	75	229	30	1	212
Precinct 5	96	204	51	0	212
Precinct 6	55	134	15	1	212
TOTAL	413	1076	148	3	212

PRECINCT	ACTIVE VOTERS	INACTIVE VOTERS	TOTAL	NUMBER VOTED 04/28/2009	% VOTED 04/28/2009
PRECINCT 1	1602	180	1782	212	12%
PRECINCT 2	2585	220	2805	372	14%
PRECINCT 3	2346	341	2687	165	7%
PRECINCT 4	2365	202	2567	335	13%
PRECINCT 5	2602	180	2782	351	13%
PRECINCT 6	2410	252	2662	205	8%
TOWN OF EASTON	13910	1375	15285	1640	11%

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 18, 2009

MODERATOR: Annual Town Meeting is called to order. As the first part of the warrant deals with the Financial Articles, I recognize the Chairman of the Finance Committee in order to provide an explanation of the current status of the Town's finances.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Provide explanation of the circumstances which require that the Town await additional information from the Commonwealth prior to acting on Financial Articles, numbers **5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 20, 22, 36.**

MODERATOR: On the recommendation of the Finance Committee/Town Administrator, I would entertain a motion to fix the time to which to adjourn the Town Meeting to a date and time certain in order to address those Financial Articles.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: I move that when we adjourn tonight, we adjourn to Monday, June 8, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium, at which this Town Meeting will reconvene to act on the Financial Articles under this warrant, which are article numbers **5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 20, 22, 36.**

Corona moves, Barlow 2nd

Motion carries by majority vote.

MODERATOR: Now that we have set the date and time for this Town Meeting to reconvene, I would entertain a motion to postpone consideration of those Financial Articles until the time when this Town Meeting reconvenes.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: I move that consideration of Articles **5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 20, 22, 36 b**e postponed until the adjourned session of this Town Meeting.

Corona moves, Barlow 2nd

Motion carries by majority vote.

ARTICLE 1. ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL REPORTS

To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Selectmen, Town Administrator, Assessors, Board of Health, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, School Committee, Town Accountant, Director of Public Works, and other Departments, Boards and Committees of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman: **Corona** **Second: King**

Motion: I move that the Town vote to accept the reports of the Selectmen, Town Administrator, Assessors, Board of Health, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, School Committee, Town Accountant, Director of Public Works, and other Departments, Boards and Committees of the Town.

Explanation: This is an annual vote to accept the Town Report.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Town Administrator

UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 2. PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE SPECIAL ACT CHARTER COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote to hear the preliminary report of the Special Act Charter Committee.

Submitted by Special Act Charter Committee

Selectman: **Corona** **2nd Cohen**

Motion: I move that Town hear the preliminary report of the Special Act Charter Committee.

Explanation: The Special Act Charter Committee was established to recommend a new Town Charter that would change the form of government from open town meeting to a council/manager form. After the Committee completes the charter, it will be presented to voters at a future town meeting and election for a vote. The Committee has held public meetings and is ready to make a preliminary report to the Town. No action will be taken at this Town Meeting as this report is for informational purposes only.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A

Presentation By: Steve Merlin, Chairman Special Act Charter Committee

Questions to: Steve Merlin

UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 3. REVOLVING FUND FOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 44, section 53E 1/2, to set up a revolving fund for fiscal year 2010, known as the "Conservation Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account", which shall be accounted for separately from all other monies of the Town, and to which shall be deposited departmental fees and receipts, to pay for the reasonable costs and expenses, for supplies and services as deemed necessary by the Commission to aid it in making its decisions on such applications, or in enforcement cases where such applications should have been legally filed, or for other such enforcement actions, and for the administrative costs related thereto, with said departmental fees and receipts to be expended without appropriation, and to specify as follows:

1. The revolving fund shall be expended only for the purpose of paying for supplies and services, and the administrative costs related thereto, as deemed necessary by the Commission to aid it in making its decisions on such conservation applications, or on necessary enforcement actions;
2. Only fees and receipts received from applicants for Conservation Permits, or Application for "Requests for Determination", shall be deposited in such account;
3. The Conservation Commission shall be the only Town body authorized to expend such fund, and
4. The amounts expended from fiscal year 2010, "Conservation Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account", shall not exceed $ 50,000.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Conservation Commission

Selectman: **Haederle 2^{ND}- Barlow**
Motion: I move that the Town, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 44, section 53E 1/2, vote to establish a revolving fund for the Conservation Commission for fiscal year 2010, known as the "Conservation Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account" as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: This article is required annually to establish the Conservation Commission's revolving account.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Town Accountant

UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 4. REVOLVING FUND FOR PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Planning & Zoning Board, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. 44, Section 53E 1/2, to set up a revolving fund for fiscal year 2010 known as the "Subdivision Review, Special Permit and Inspection Fees Account", which shall be accounted for separately from all other moneys of the Town, and to which are to be deposited fees received in connection with subdivision and special permit approval for application review and inspections during construction and to pay for the reasonable costs and expenses of the Board for expert engineering and consultant services and administrative costs related thereto, as deemed necessary by the Board with said fees to be expended without further appropriation, and to specify as follows:

1. The revolving fund shall be expended only for the purpose of paying for the services of expert engineers and consultants, and related administrative costs, deemed necessary by the Board, to pay for the reasonable costs and expenses of application review and inspections during construction including the purchase of software; and any other related expenses of the Planning and Zoning Board.
2. Only fees received from applicants in connection with subdivision or special permit approval for application review, publication of notices and inspections during construction shall be deposited in such account.
3. The Planning & Zoning Board shall be the only Town body authorized to expend such fund, and;
4. The amounts expended from fiscal year 2010 "Subdivision Review, Special Permit and Inspection Fees Account", shall not exceed $ 50,000.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Planning and Zoning Board

Selectman: **Haederle 2nd- King**
Motion: I move that the Town vote, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. 44, Section 53E 1/2, to establish a revolving fund for the Planning and Zoning Board for fiscal year 2010 known as the "Subdivision Review and Inspection Fees Account" as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: This article is required annually to establish the Planning and Zoning Board's revolving account.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation By: N/A
Questions to: Town Accountant
UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 14. AMEND FY 2009 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2009 Community Preservation Budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from available Community Preservation Funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of Community Preservation Projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

Selectman: **Barlow** ***2nd- Corona***

Motion: I move that the Town vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2009 Community Preservation Budget by appropriating from the Community Preservation Fund annual budgeted reserve the following amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation.

Reserves	**Recommended Amount**
Open Space	**$ 29,814**
Community Housing	**$ 29,814**
Historic Resources	**$ 29,814**

Explanation: This article amends the current year's budget for the Community Preservation Committee. Patricia Hunt, Chair of the CPA Committee, will make a presentation at town meeting to further explain this article.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation By: Patricia Hunt

Questions to: Patricia Hunt

UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 15. REPORT AND FY 2010 BUDGET OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2010 Community Preservation Budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of Community Preservation Projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

Selectman: **Corona 2nd –Haederle**

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate or reserve from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for administrative expenses, community preservation projects, the payment of debt service and other expenses in fiscal year 2010, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation.

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2010 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION BUDGET

Purpose	**Recommended Amount**
Appropriations	
Community Preservation Administrative Expenses	**$ 53,500**
Debt Service (Open Space Land Acquisition)	**110,625**
Reserves	
Community Housing	**107,000**
Historic Resources	**107,000**
FY'10 Annual Budgeted Reserve	**691,875**

Explanation: This article proposes the fiscal year 2010 budget for the Community Preservation Committee. Patricia Hunt, Chair of the CPA Committee, will make a presentation at town meeting to further explain this article.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended
Presentation By: Patricia Hunt
Questions to: Patricia Hunt

UNANIMOUS VOTE

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

JUNE 8, 2009

ARTICLE 5. REVOLVING FUND FOR BOARD OF HEALTH INSPECTION FEES (taken as last article of night)

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Ch.44, section 53E ½, to authorize the Board of Health to set up a revolving fund for Fiscal 2010, which shall be accounted for separately from all other monies of the Town, to which shall be credited only departmental fees for witnessing observation holes, percolation tests and other related duties for approval of on-site septic system designs and installations within the Town of Easton to be known as the "On-Site Septic Service Account," and funds from said account may be paid out to any qualified professional, approved by the Board of Health without further appropriation, and with said authorization to be made upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, and to specify as follows:

1. The revolving fund may be expended for the purpose of paying for services related to witnessing observation holes, percolation tests and other related duties for approval of on-site septic system designs and installations approved by the Board of Health;
2. Only fees received for work related to septic system design, approval and/or soil exploration shall be deposited in said account;
3. The Board of Health shall be the only body authorized to expend such fund, and;
4. The amounts expended from the fiscal year 2010 "On-Site Septic Service Account," shall not exceed $ 60,000.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman: **Haederle 2nd- Barlow**

Motion: I move that the Town vote, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. 44, Section 53E 1/2, to establish a revolving fund for the Board of Health for fiscal year 2010 as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: As part of the Health Department reorganization, the Town will privatize the process of approval for septic systems. The actual cost for witnessing percolation tests and evaluating soil conditions will be charged to the applicant. The Town will use this fund to pay private consulting engineers to perform the evaluations. In this way, the cost of performing this service will be removed, in its entirety, from the Town budget.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation:

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Town Administrator
Motion is Lost

ARTICLE 6. SUPPLEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGETS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to supplement fiscal year 2009 budgets, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman: **King 2nd -Barlow**

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of $200,000 to supplement the fiscal year 2009 Snow and Ice budget and that to meet this appropriation transfers from the following fiscal year 2009 operating budgets shall be made:

Employee Benefits and Insurance	**$100,000**
Reserve Fund	**$ 40,000**
Planning & Community Development	**$ 20,000**
Town Clerk	**$ 20,000**
Town Counsel	**$ 20,000**
Subtotal	**$200,000**

Explanation: Transfers from various departments to the Snow & Ice budget for purposes of deficit reduction are the only adjustments planned at this time. The exact amounts and departments will be provided at town meeting when more up-to-date financial information is available.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Town Administrator

Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 7. PAYMENT OF BILL(S) FROM A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay the cost of bills incurred in a prior fiscal year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman: **King 2nd -Barlow**

Motion: I move to dismiss Article 7.

Explanation: There are no prior year bills to be paid at this time.

Vote Required: 4/5

Selectmen Recommendation:

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: N/A

Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 8. PERSONAL PROPERTY EXEMPTION

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59 Section 5, Clause 54, authorizing the establishment of a minimum value for personal property subject to taxation, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Assessors

Selectman: **King 2^{nd}- Barlow**

Motion: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 54, and establish the minimum fair cash value of personal property subject to taxation at $6,000.00, to be effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009.

Explanation: The personal property exemption allows the town to be able to bill only those accounts from which we make money. It cost the town between $75 and $80 per account. This exemption will make it so that the town does not lose money when taxing personal property accounts.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Board of Assessors

Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 9. APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVOR AND PREVENTION SERVICES

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, the amount of $4,500 to fund a contract for fiscal year 2010 for services provided to sexual assault survivors and their families, as well as services associated with the prevention of sexual assaults and other services associated therewith, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into said contract, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman: **Cohen 2nd-Barlow**

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from free cash, the amount of $4,500 to fund a contract for FY 2010 for services provided to sexual assault survivors and their families, as well as services associated with the prevention of sexual assaults and other services associated therewith, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into said contract.

Explanation: We have appropriated funds for this purpose for many years and propose that we continue to make these essential services available in the community.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Colleen Corona

Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 10. ARTICLE TO FUND FIREFIGHTER CONTRACT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of funding the economic items, in fiscal years 2008 and 2009, contained in a collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Town and the Local 2790 International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman: **Cohen**

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of $209,000 for the purpose of funding the economic items, in fiscal years 2008 and 2009, contained in a collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Town and the Local 2790 International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010 and that to meet this appropriation, $62,000 be transferred from free cash and $147,000 be transferred from the fiscal year 2009 Employee Benefits and Insurance budget to the fiscal year 2009 Fire Department Budget.

Explanation: This agreement covers the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010 and provides a 2.0% cost of living adjustment for fiscal year 2008, 3% for fiscal years 2009 and 2010, plus a 1.5% adjustment on June 30, 2010. This article provides funding for fiscal year 2008 in the amount of $62,000 and fiscal year 2009 in the amount of $147,000. The fiscal 2008 portion will be funded from free cash and the fiscal 2009 portion will be funded from a reserve line-item set aside in the fiscal 2009 operating budget.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation:

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Town Administrator

Voted

ARTICLE 11. ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as follows:

Board of Selectmen, each member	$1,800
Board of Health, each member	$1,000
Board of Assessors, each member	$1,800
Moderator	$ 100

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman: **Cohen 2nd-Corona**

Motion: I move that the Town vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as printed in your warrant.

Explanation: This is an annual article, required by statute, to set the salary levels for all compensated elected officials.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation:

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Colleen Corona

Voted

ARTICLE 12. FY 2010 OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money to defray the Town charges for the ensuing fiscal year including the salaries of the several elected and appointed officers of the Town, and make appropriations for same, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman: **Barlow** **2nd- Corona**

ARTICLE 12. FY2010 OPERATING BUDGET –

Motion: I move that the Town appropriate the sum of $63,629,074 of which 58,230,452 shall be raised by taxation, $600,000 shall be transferred from free cash, $900,000 shall be transferred from the Stabilization Fund, $67,109 shall be transferred from the Conservation Fund, $55,000 shall be transferred from the Conservation Commission Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account, $20,000 shall be transferred from the Wetlands Protection Fund, $2,922,513 shall be transferred from water receipts, and $834,000 shall be transferred from solid waste & recycling user fees all to meet the Town charges, including the salaries of several elected and appointed officers of the Town for fiscal year 2010 as follows:

FD-DPT	DEPARTMENT NAME	AMOUNT
01-120	SELECTMEN	317,319
01-131	FINANCE COMMITTEE	2,000
01-132	RESERVE FUND	60,000
01-135	ACCOUNTANT	180,384
01-140	ASSESSORS	201,599
01-145	TOWN COLLECTOR/TREASURER	283,798
01-150	TOWN COUNSEL	160,000
01-155	DATA PROCESSING	209,913
01-160	TOWN CLERK	196,154
01-175	PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	220,671
01-210	POLICE	3,744,407
01-220	FIRE	2,901,451
01-231	AMBULANCE	414,723
01-240	INSPECTIONAL SERVICES	271,561
01-310	SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL	779,963
01-400	DPW ADMINISTRATION	2,690,673
01-510	BOARD OF HEALTH	136,982
01-541	COUNCIL ON AGING	211,045
01-543	VETERANS DEPARTMENT	255,884
01-610	LIBRARY	434,707
01-630	RECREATION DEPARTMENT	82,624

01-700	MATURING DEBT & INTEREST	4,982,546
01-910	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS & INSURANCE	10,392,464
01-920	OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT	109,600
61-450	WATER DIVISION	2,374,760
62-430	SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING	834,000
01-300	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	31,179,846
	TOTAL FY 2010 BUDGET	**$ 63,629,074**

Explanation: This is the annual operating budget for the Town. The Town Administrator and others will make a presentation at town meeting regarding this proposal.

Motion made and seconded to add $83,046.00 to the Board of Health Budget, to be funded from free cash.

MOTION PASSES

Therefore, amended budget appears below:

ARTICLE 12. FY2010 OPERATING BUDGET -amended

Motion: I move that the Town appropriate the sum of $63,629,074 of which 58,230,452 shall be raised by taxation, $683,046 shall be transferred from free cash, $900,000 shall be transferred from the Stabilization Fund, $67,109 shall be transferred from the Conservation Fund, $55,000 shall be transferred from the Conservation Commission Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account, $20,000 shall be transferred from the Wetlands Protection Fund, $2,922,513 shall be transferred from water receipts, and $834,000 shall be transferred from solid waste & recycling user fees all to meet the Town charges, including the salaries of several elected and appointed officers of the Town for fiscal year 2010 as follows:

FD-DPT	DEPARTMENT NAME	AMOUNT
01-120	SELECTMEN	317,319
01-131	FINANCE COMMITTEE	2,000
01-132	RESERVE FUND	60,000
01-135	ACCOUNTANT	180,384
01-140	ASSESSORS	201,599
01-145	TOWN COLLECTOR/TREASURER	283,798
01-150	TOWN COUNSEL	160,000
01-155	DATA PROCESSING	209,913
01-160	TOWN CLERK	196,154

01-175	PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	220,671
01-210	POLICE	3,744,407
01-220	FIRE	2,901,451
01-231	AMBULANCE	414,723
01-240	INSPECTIONAL SERVICES	271,561
01-310	SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL	779,963
01-400	DPW ADMINISTRATION	2,690,673
01-510	BOARD OF HEALTH	220,028
01-541	COUNCIL ON AGING	211,045
01-543	VETERANS DEPARTMENT	255,884
01-610	LIBRARY	434,707
01-630	RECREATION DEPARTMENT	82,624
01-700	MATURING DEBT & INTEREST	4,982,546
01-910	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS & INSURANCE	10,392,464
01-920	OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT	109,600
61-450	WATER DIVISION	2,374,760
62-430	SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING	834,000
01-300	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	31,179,846
	TOTAL FY 2010 BUDGET	**$ 63,712,120**

Vote Required: Majority

Presentation By: Various

VOTED.

ARTICLE 13. FY 2010 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, the sum of $280,012 for the purpose of meeting the capital budget needs of the Town for fiscal year 2010 as listed below, or take any other action relative thereto.

Police Cruisers (2)	$ 48,012
Firefighter Protective Clothing	25,000
School Computer Hardware/Software	70,000
School SPED Van Replacement	42,000
Town Computer Hardware/Software	40,000
DPW 1-Ton Dump Truck with Plow	55,000
Total	$280,012

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman: **Barlow 2nd-King**

Motion:

Explanation: This is the annual capital budget for the Town. Requests submitted to the Capital Planning Committee totaled $3,643,444, but due to the current economic crisis, a very minimal list of the most critical needs is requested for funding. The Town received a one-time payment from the State in January for amending its zoning bylaws at the previous annual town meeting to adopt a Smart Growth overlay district (40R). The Town Administrator recommends using these funds for capital needs in accordance with the Town's financial management principles.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation:

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Presentation By: Town Administrator

Questions to: Town Administrator

Voted

ARTICLE 17. ACQUISITION OF LAND ON BAY ROAD

To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen with the approval of the Community Preservation Committee to purchase a portion of the property located on Bay Road identified on Assessors' Map R19 as Lot 20, said property containing approximately 18 acres, more or less, owned by the Henderson Family Trust, being described in several deeds recorded in the Bristol County Registry of Deeds under the Community Preservation Act (Mass. Gen. Laws, c.44B) for one or more of the following uses:

- Acquisition, creation and preservation of open space;
- Acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use;

and that the Town raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer a sum of money for said purpose, including other costs incidental and related thereto, from Community Preservation funds and further, to convey all or part of the land to the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen and/or the Conservation Commission, and/or convey easements and conservation or preservation restrictions, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

Selectman: **Corona 2nd- Haederle**

Motion: To Dismiss this Article

Explanation: Patricia Hunt, Chair of the CPA Committee, will make a presentation at town meeting to explain this article.

Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 19. APPROPRIATION AND AUTHORIZATION TO EXPEND CHAPTER 90 FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the State's FY 2010 Chapter 90 apportionment the sum of $546,339 for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of public roads and sidewalks, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of said funds, and to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman: **Haederle 2nd-Corona**

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds received from the State's FY 2010 Chapter 90 apportionment the sum of $546,339 for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of public roads and sidewalks, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of said funds.

Explanation: This is the Town's annual share of Chapter 90 funds provided by the State for road related improvements in the community.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Town Administrator

Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 20. INCREASE IN COLLECTOR'S DEMAND CHARGE

To see if the Town will vote to charge the sum of $30.00 for each written demand issued by the Collector to be added to and collected as part of the tax as authorized by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 60, Section 15, said demand to be effective July 1, 2009, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Collector/Treasurer

Selectman: **Haederle 2nd- Corona**

Motion: I move that the Town charge the sum of $30.00 for each written demand issued by the Collector to be added to and collected as part of the tax as authorized by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 60, Section 15, said demand to be effective July 1, 2009, or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: This is a provision of the law enacted by the legislature which was effective July 1, 2008. Collection costs which are imposed on delinquent taxpayers are found in G.L. c 60 sec 15. These charges are fixed amounts that are added to the outstanding tax by law, not at the discretion of local officials. Town meeting must approve the increase of this fee from $ 5.00 to the $30.00 allowed under this amendment. Demand charges are imposed as part of the collection process to ensure the municipality receives the money it is owed.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Town Administrator

Voted

ARTICLE 22. FIVE CORNERS INTERSECTION RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY EASEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire through donation, purchase or eminent domain, permanent easements and temporary easements as necessary to facilitate the reconstruction of the Five Corners Intersection from the following parcels as depicted on a plan prepared by Vanasse, Hangen, Brustlin, Inc. entitled "Plan of Land in Easton Massachusetts" showing locations of easements taken by the Town of Easton, Scale 1" = 50', Dated March 27, 2009, said plan being available for review in the Office of the Department of Public Works,

Location	Perm. Esmt.	Temp. Esmt.	Value Indication
507 Foundry Street	E-1	TE-1	$ 500.00
503 Foundry Street	E-2	TE-2	$ 1,600.00
506 Foundry Street		TE-3	$ 3,900.00
502 Foundry Street		TE-4	$ 6,700.00
501 Foundry Street	E-3	TE-5	$ 10,300.00
500 Foundry Street		TE-6	$ 1,000.00
490 Foundry Street		TE-7 & 8	$ 3,600.00
491 Foundry Street	E-4	TE-9, TE-17 & 18	$ 42,200.00
720 Depot Street	E-5	TE-14	$ 40,700.00
482 Foundry Street		TE-11	$ 2,300.00
700 Depot Street	E-8	TE-15	$ 7,300.00
479 Foundry Street	E-6	TE-16	$ 7,600.00
478 Foundry Street		TE-12	$ 3,500.00
472 Foundry Street		TE-13	$ 200.00
390 Bay Road		TE-10	$ 3,800.00
689 Depot Street	E-7	TE-19 & 20	$ 9,400.00

NOTE: E – denotes permanent easements TE – denotes temporary easements

And further to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund said acquisitions.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Director of Public Works

Selectman: **King 2nd- Barlow**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire through donation, purchase or eminent domain, permanent easements and temporary easements as necessary to facilitate the reconstruction of the Five Corners Intersection, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this acquisition, as printed in your warrant.

Motion to Amend: I move to amend Article 22 as follows:
Selectman: **King 2nd- Barlow**

- to delete "Plan of Land in Easton Massachusetts" showing locations of easements taken by the Town of Easton, Scale 1" = 50', Dated March 27, 2009" and inserting in its place "Plan of Land in Easton Massachusetts" showing locations of easements taken by the Town of Easton, Scale 1" = 50', Dated March 27, 2009" and revised to May 15, 2009";

- to add the following the parcel:

Off Foundry Street	TE-21	$1,400.00

- and to revise temporary and permanent easements required and the value for the following parcels:

Location	Perm. Esmt.	Temp. Esmt.	Value Indication
689 Depot Street	E-7	TE-20	$ 9,400.00 to $16,100.00
501 Foundry Street	E-3	TE-5	$ 10,300.00 to $29,500.00
491 Foundry Street	E-4		$ 42,200.00 to $42,500.00
720 Depot Street	E-5		$ 40,700.00 to $41,800.00
479 Foundry Street		TE-16	$ 7,600.00 to $7,700.00

Vote on the Amendment- Voted

Vote Required: 2/3 Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Wayne Southworth

Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 36. ACCEPTANCE OF MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS CHAPTER 32B, SECTION 18

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32B, Section 18, so that the Town shall require that all retirees, their spouses and dependents who are enrolled in Medicare Part A at no cost to a retiree, their spouse or dependents, or eligible for coverage thereunder at no cost to a retiree, their spouse or dependents, be required to enroll in a Medicare health benefits supplement plan offered by the Town, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman: **King 2nd- Barlow**

Motion: I move to dismiss this Article

Explanation: Based on current enrollment in health insurance plans and 2009 premiums the Town paid an additional $ 418,584 in fiscal year 2009 in premiums for retiree health insurance for retirees not enrolled in Medicare. Chapter 32B allows the Town to require those retirees who meet the Medicare eligibility requirements to enroll.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation:

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Presentation By: N/A

Questions to: Town Administrator

Unanimous Vote

The Annual Town Meeting Adjourned at 9:47 pm

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 5TH, 2009
OLIVER AMES HIGH SCHOOL
LOTHROP STREET
EASTON, MA
7:00 PM

A QUORUM BEING PRESENT, MODERATOR GALAS CONVENED THE MEETING AT 7:07 PM.

ARTICLE 1. LOCAL OPTION MEALS EXCISE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c. 64L, § 2(a) to impose a local sales tax upon the sale of restaurant meals originating within the town by a vendor at the rate of .75 percent of the gross receipts of the vendor from the sale of restaurant meals to take effect January 1, 2010, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman: Corona

Motion: I move to accept the provisions of G.L. c. 64L, § 2(a) to impose a local sales tax upon the sale of restaurant meals originating within the town by a vendor at the rate of .75 percent of the gross receipts of the vendor from the sale of restaurant meals to take effect January 1, 2010.

Explanation: A city or town may now impose an excise of .75% on the sales of restaurant meals originating within the municipality by accepting G.L. c. 64L, § 2(a). The Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) will collect the local meals excise at the time it collects the state tax on the sale. Therefore, the local excise applies to all meals subject to the state sales tax. A community may not vary the rate or the meals subject to the excise. A community's acceptance of the local meals excise becomes operative on the first day of the next calendar quarter after the vote, provided that date is at least 30 days after the vote to accept. If not, the acceptance becomes operative on the first day of the second quarter after the vote. If accepted by this Special Town Meeting, the Local Option Meals Excise will become effective January 1, 2010. Since meals taxes are paid to the State in arrears, the Town will receive five months of revenue during fiscal year 2010. Using DOR estimates, this will result in $121,696 in additional revenue to the Town for the five month period. A full year of meals excise will generate an estimated $292,070 in fiscal year 2011.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation by Town Administrator

TOWN MEETING ACTION: VOTED

2. AMEND FISCAL YEAR 2010 BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to amend the fiscal year 2010 budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman: Corona

Motion:

Motion to be used if Article 1 FAILS: **I move to amend the fiscal year 2010 budget by reducing appropriations in the amount of $711,845 and to meet this reduction, $711,845 shall be reduced from taxation; said reduction shall be made from departmental operating budgets as follows:**

Police	**$ 61,710**
Fire	**80,122**
Ambulance	**67,950**
Employee Benefits & Insurance	**187,390**
School Department	**314,673**
Total	**$711,845**

Motion to be used if Article 1 PASSES: **I move to amend the fiscal year 2010 budget by reducing appropriations in the amount of $590,149 and to meet this reduction, $590,149 shall be reduced from taxation; said reduction shall be made from departmental operating budgets as follows:**

Police	**$ 37,371**
Fire	**55,783**
Ambulance	**67,950**
Employee Benefits & Insurance	**187,390**
School Department	**241,655**
Total	**$590,149**

Explanation: This article will reduce the overall fiscal year 2010 budget based on the passage of a final State budget which reduced local aid to Easton as well as reduced revenue estimates for local receipts.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 3. FY 2010 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of meeting the capital budget needs of the Town for fiscal year 2010, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman: Haederle

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of $575,200 for the capital projects listed below, of which $75,200 shall be transferred from water surplus and further that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow $500,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, or any other enabling authority, with the intent that although any bonds or notes issued hereunder shall be general obligations of the Town, the debt service on any such bonds or notes will be paid from water revenues, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out these projects for the purpose of meeting the capital budget needs of the Town for fiscal year 2010 as follows:

Two ¾ ton utility trucks	**75,200**
Water Main Reconstruction	**500,000**
Total	**$575,200**

Explanation: This article will fund the capital needs of the Water Division for FY 2010. At this time, the capital items proposed are to replace two existing vehicles with two new ¾ Ton 4x4 Utility Trucks w/plows in the amount of $37,600 each and water main construction in the amount of $500,000 for at total of $575,200. Proposed funding sources are $75,200 from water surplus and $500,000 from borrowing.

Vote Required: Two-Thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 4. ACQUISITION OF PINE GROVE CEMETERY

To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to G.L. c.40, §15 to accept a gift of land from the Pine Grove Cemetery Corporation such land being located at 5 Morse Road identified on Assessors' Map 53U as Lot 10, containing approximately 1.62 acres, more or less, to be held under the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen and/or the Cemetery Commission for cemetery purposes, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any agreements and to take any actions which are necessary to facilitate the acquisition of said land, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Cemetery Commission

Selectman: Haederle

Motion: I move to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to G.L. c.40, §15 to accept a gift of land from the Pine Grove Cemetery Corporation such land being located at 5 Morse Road identified on Assessors' Map 53U as Lot 10, containing approximately 1.62 acres, more or less, to be held under the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen and/or the Cemetery Commission for cemetery purposes, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any agreements and to take any actions which are necessary to facilitate the acquisition of said land, or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: Melanie Deware, Clerk of the Cemetery Commission, will make a presentation at town meeting to explain this article.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 5. APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION AT PUMPING STATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of $350,000 for the construction of the Water Division's Solar Photovoltaic Project to be located at Pumping Station #2; and further, to see whether the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow from the Drinking Water Revolving Fund and Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust ("Trust") or otherwise, or transfer from available funds, or any combination thereof, to meet said appropriation; or to take any action in relation thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman: King

Motion: I move that the Town appropriate $350,000.00 for the purpose of financing the design and construction of the Water Division's Solar Photovoltaic Project to be located at Pump Station #2 including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of MGL Chapter 29C, as most recently amended by St. 1998, c.78; and further, that to meet this appropriation, the Town vote to transfer the sum of $350,000.00 from the Water Enterprise Account; and that the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen be authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the Drinking Water Revolving Fund and Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust ("Trust") established pursuant to chapter 29C; and in connection therewith to enter into a loan agreement and/or security agreement with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to such loan and for any federal or state aid available for the Project or for the financing thereof; and further, that the Board of Selectmen are authorized to enter into a project regulatory agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection, to expend all funds available for the Project and to take any other action necessary to carry out the Project.

Explanation: In 2008, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection coordinated a targeted pilot project involving a total of 14 municipal wastewater treatment plants and drinking water treatment facilities through energy auditing, assessments for renewable & clean energy possibilities and support for implementation of energy-related projects. As part of this project, the Easton Water Division was approved for financing through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program for the installation of a Solar Photovoltaic Project. The DWSRF is a joint federal-state financing program that provides subsidized interest loans to water suppliers for their system infrastructure. However, due to the availability of federal stimulus funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), this appropriation will be reduced as principal forgiveness.

Vote Required: Two-Thirds
Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended
TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 6. APPROPRIATION OF CPA FUNDS FOR UNITY CHURCH PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate the sum of $250,000 by transfer from available Community Preservation Funds, historic preservation reserves, for the purpose of funding an historic preservation project with the Unity Church of North Easton, located at 13 Main Street in North Easton, Massachusetts, and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, the disbursement of such funds to be subject to approval by the Community Preservation Committee upon the submittal of paid invoices and receipts of expenditures, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

Selectman: King

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of $250,000 by transfer from available Community Preservation historic preservation reserves for the purpose of funding a grant for the restoration of the exterior of the building known as the Unity Church, located at 13 Main St. in North Easton, Massachusetts.

Explanation: This is an historic preservation project which will fund exterior restoration work to the historic Unity Church in North Easton. A representative from the Unity Church Restoration Committee will provide a detailed explanation.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

TOWN MEETING ACTION: VOTED

ARTICLE 7. APPROPRIATION OF CPA FUNDS FOR DEAN MILL PRESERVATION PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate the a sum of money by transfer from available Community Preservation Funds, historic preservation reserves and unreserved funds, or to appropriate such sum by borrowing pursuant to G.L. Chapter 44B, §11, for the purpose of funding an historic preservation project for the structure known as the Dean Mill, located at 670R Washington Street and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, the disbursement of such funds to be subject to the receipt of a historic preservation restriction on the Dean Mill from the owners of record to the Town of Easton to be administered, managed and enforced by the Easton Historical Commission, such restriction meeting the requirements of G.L. Chapter 184, §§31 and 32 and in such form as is satisfactory to the Easton Historic Commission, and subject to the restoration of the Dean Mill to the satisfaction of the Easton Historical Commission and in accordance with the historic preservation restriction, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

Selectman: Cohen

Motion: IF ARTICLE 6 Passes: I move that the Town vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate $360,000 for the purpose of funding an historic preservation project for the structure known as the Dean Mill, located at 670R Washington Street and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to meet this appropriation $118,752 shall be transferred from available Community Preservation Funds Historic Preservation Reserves and $241,248 shall be transferred from Community Preservation Funds Unreserved Funds; disbursement of such funds to be subject to the receipt of a historic preservation restriction on the Dean Mill from the owners of record to the Town of Easton to be administered, managed and enforced by the Easton Historical Commission, such restriction meeting the requirements of G.L. Chapter 184, §§31 and 32 and in such form as is satisfactory to the Easton Historic Commission, and subject to the restoration of the Dean Mill to the satisfaction of the Easton Historical Commission and in accordance with the historic preservation restriction, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project.

Explanation: This is an historic preservation project which will fund exterior restoration work to restore and move the historic Dean Mill. A representative from the Easton Historical Commission will provide a detailed explanation.

Vote Required: Two-Thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Not available at time of printing

Finance Committee Recommendation: Not available at time of printing

TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 8. APPROPRIATION OF CPA FUNDS FOR RESTORATION OF QUESET GARDENS

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate the sum of $69,400 by transfer from available Community Preservation Funds for the purpose of funding Phase I of an historic preservation project with the Ames Free Library Board of Directors for the property formerly known as Queset Gardens, located at 53 Main Street and for the payment of costs incidental and related thereto, the disbursement of such funds to be subject to approval by the Community Preservation Committee upon the submittal of paid invoices and receipts of expenditures, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

Selectman: Cohen

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of $69,400.00 by transfer from available Community Preservation Funds Historic Preservation Reserves, for the purpose of funding Phase I of an historic preservation project with the Ames Free Library Board of Directors for the property formerly known as Queset Gardens, located at 53 Main Street and for the payment of costs incidental and related thereto, the disbursement of such funds to be subject to approval by the Community Preservation Committee upon the submittal of paid invoices and receipts of expenditures.

Explanation: This is an historic preservation project which will fund restoration work to the historic Italian Gardens located in North Easton. A representative from the Ames Free Library Board of Directors will provide a detailed explanation.

Vote Required: Majority

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 9. DISPOSITION OF TOWN LAND

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. Chapter 40, §15A, to transfer from the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen for tax-title purposes, to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of selling or disposing of same, a certain parcel of land located at 12A Highland Street, Easton, Massachusetts identified on Assessors Map 50U, Lot 13 upon such terms and conditions, and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town for the purpose of developing the lot as one single-family house containing no more than three bedrooms and subject to a deed restriction for occupancy by an income-eligible household such that the unit would be eligible for inclusion in the Massachusetts Subsidized Housing Inventory as affordable housing, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any agreements and to take any actions which are necessary to facilitate the disposition of said land, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

Selectman: Barlow

Motion: I move, pursuant to G.L. Chapter 40, §15A, to transfer from the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen for tax-title purposes, to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of selling or disposing of same, a certain parcel of land located at 12A Highland Street, Easton, Massachusetts identified on Assessors Map 50U, Lot 13 upon such terms and conditions, and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town for the purpose of developing the lot as one single-family house containing no more than three bedrooms and subject to a deed restriction for occupancy by an income-eligible household such that the unit would be eligible for inclusion in the Massachusetts Subsidized Housing Inventory as affordable housing, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any agreements and to take any actions which are necessary to facilitate the disposition of said land, and prior to the disposition of said parcel, that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to convey an easement to the owner of 12 Highland Street upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town for the purpose of allowing portions of existing sheds to remain and, to allow for the construction of a portion of a fence around the shed upon the parcel of land to be disposed of, or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: 12A Highland Street is a parcel of land taken by tax-title. At the May Town Meeting, money was appropriated for a feasibility study to determine whether two parcels of town-owned land were suitable for the development of affordable housing. Preliminary results of the study indicated one parcel, 12A Highland Street, was suitable for the development of up to a three-bedroom house. The purpose of this article would be to allow the Selectmen to convey the parcel to a non-profit developer, such as Habitat for Humanity. Further, it was discovered that approximately 6" of the corner of the abutting resident's shed encroaches onto the parcel at 12A Highland Street and the easement is necessary to allow the shed to remain.

Vote Required: Two-thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended

Presentation by Alice Savage

TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 10. AMENDMENT OF THE TOWN OF EASTON ZONING BY-LAW – SIGNS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws of the Town of Easton in the following respects:

to delete the definition of Illuminated Sign in its entirety from Section 10-2 DEFINITIONS, and inserting in its place the following definition:

> INTERNALLY ILLUMINATED SIGNS
> A sign with an artificial light source incorporated internally, including neon and neon-like signs, or any sign designed to give forth artificial light through transparent or translucent material from a source of light within the sign.

and to amend Section 10-3. GENERAL PROVISIONS, 1. Signs Prohibited, by deleting subsection (e) in its entirety and inserting in its place the following:

> (e) Flashing, animated, or internally illuminated signs, including neon, signs.

Submitted by Town Administrator

Selectman: Barlow

Motion: I move to amend the Zoning By-Laws of the Town of Easton §10-2 Definitions, Illuminated Sign. To delete the definition of "illuminated signs" in its entirety and insert in its place

Internally Illuminated Signs
A sign with an artificial light source incorporate internally, including, but not limited to LED, neon and neon-like signs or any sign designed to give forth artificial light through transparent or translucent material from a source of light within the sign

§ 10-3. General Provisions. 1. Signs prohibited of the Town of Easton Zoning ByLaw by deleting subsection (e) of §10-11 in its entirety and inserting in its place the following:

(e) Flashing, animated, or internally illuminated, including LED and neon signs.

Explanation: The Easton Zoning By Law currently prohibits, among other sign types, "Flashing, animated, or neon, signs." This amendment will prohibit all internally illuminated signs, including "neon-like" signs.

Vote Required: Two-Thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A

ARTICLE 11. REQUEST TO DISCONTINUE ROOSEVELT CIRCLE AS A PUBLIC WAY

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue as a public way for all purposes the entirety of a way known as Roosevelt Circle, as shown on a Plan entitled "Discontinuance Plan of Roosevelt Circle" a copy of which is on file with the Department of Planning & Community Development, subject to the reservation of a water line easement in said way; and to transfer the care, custody, control and management of said discontinued portion of Roosevelt Circle from the Board of Selectmen for public way purposes to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of conveyance, and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey all of the Town's right title and interest in said discontinued way upon such terms and conditions, and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town, or take any other relative action thereto.

Submitted by Planning Board

Selectman: Corona

Motion: I move to discontinue as a public way for all purposes the entirety of a way known as Roosevelt Circle, as shown on a Plan entitled "Discontinuance Plan of Roosevelt Circle" a copy of which is on file with the Department of Planning & Community Development, subject to the reservation of a water line easement in said way; and to transfer the care, custody, control and management of said discontinued portion of Roosevelt Circle from the Board of Selectmen for public way purposes to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of conveyance, and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey all of the Town's right title and interest in said discontinued way upon such terms and conditions, and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

Explanation: Roosevelt Circle is currently a cul-de-sac which serves as the access to the Queset on the Pond apartments and the Stoneforge Grill. The roadway is proposed to be extended as a privately maintained through-way to connect new and existing business within the Queset Smart Growth Overlay District.

Vote Required: Two-Thirds

Selectmen Recommendation: Recommended

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommended
TOWN MEETING ACTION: UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 12.

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:54 PM

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton,

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said EASTON who are qualified to vote in the Special State Primaries to vote at

Precincts 1, 2, 4 - Oliver Ames High School Gymnasium, Lothrop Street
Precincts 3 & 6 – Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Foundry Street
Precinct 5 – Easton Baptist Church, 195 Bay Road

on **TUESDAY, THE EIGHTH OF DECEMBER, 2009,** from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Special State Primaries for the candidates of political parties for the following office:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS. . . . . FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this ________________ day of ______________________, 2009.
(month)

________________________________ ________________________________

________________________________ ________________________________

____

SELECTMEN OF EASTON

Easton, Mass.

By virtue hereof and as within directed, I have this day posted attested copies of this Warrant.

____
John D. Melin, Constable of Easton

A true copy: Attest: ________________________, Town Clerk of Easton

Jeremy Paul Gillis

(Warrant must be posted at least ***seven days prior*** to December 8, 2009.)

OFFICE							
SENATOR IN CONGRESS- DEMOCRAT	**CAPUANO**	**COAKLEY**	**KHAZEI**	**PAGLIUCA**	**Blanks**	**Write Ins**	**TOTAL**
Precinct 1	58	98	25	26	0	1	208
Precinct 2	108	147	47	43	0	2	347
Precinct 3	82	159	42	36	0	1	320
Precinct 4	84	148	45	37	0	1	315
Precinct 5	102	220	63	61	0	1	447
Precinct 6	78	155	28	52	0	0	313
TOTAL	512	927	250	255	0	6	1950

SENATOR IN CONGRESS- REPUBLICAN	BROWN	ROBINSON	Blanks	Write Ins	TOTAL
Precinct 1	82	10	0	0	92
Precinct 2	127	10	0	0	137
Precinct 3	100	4	0	0	104
Precinct 4	105	13	0	1	119
Precinct 5	156	9	0	0	165
Precinct 6	130	11	0	0	141
TOTAL	700	57	0	1	758

SENATOR IN CONGRESS- LIBERTARIAN	Blanks	Write Ins	TOTAL
Precinct 1	0	0	0
Precinct 2	0	0	0
Precinct 3	0	1	1
Precinct 4	0	0	0
Precinct 5	0	1	1
Precinct 6	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	2	2

TOTAL VOTES CAST	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	LIBERTARIAN
Precinct 1	208	92	0
Precinct 2	347	137	0
Precinct 3	320	104	1
Precinct 4	315	119	0
Precinct 5	447	165	1
Precinct 6	313	141	0
TOTAL	1950	758	2

PRECINCT	ACTIVE VOTERS	INACTIVE VOTERS	TOTAL	NUMBER VOTED	% VOTED
PRECINCT 1	1614	168	1782	300	17%
PRECINCT 2	2602	196	2798	484	17%
PRECINCT 3	2377	318	2695	425	16%
PRECINCT 4	2390	178	2568	434	17%
PRECINCT 5	2630	167	2797	613	22%
PRECINCT 6	2438	226	2664	454	17%
TOWN OF EASTON	14051	1253	15304	2710	18%

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AT YOUR SERVICE

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Veterans Services Department	508-230-0550
Superintendent of Schools	508-230-3202
Center School	508-230-3233
Easton Middle School	508-230-3222
F.L. Olmsted School	508-230-3205
H.H. Richardson School	508-230-3227
Moreau Hall School	508-230-3235
Oliver Ames High School	508-230-3210
Parkview School	508-230-3230

EASTON EMERGENCY
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MUNICIPAL AMBULANCE

DIAL 911